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Turner's Talk



By: Steve Heathman

March's Meeting is on the 26th Taming the Skew - Bill Newsom

USING CORING SYSTEM'S

By Steve Heathman



Joel Demonstrating the Mcnaughton Coring System

Joel Benson was our feature turner this month. He demonstrated coring systems this month using both the McNughton and OneWay.

Before actually starting to turn Joel went over things to be aware of and a few safety items. He discussed how important it is to look at the piece of wood very closely. Any cracks or ring shanks can cause a piece to break and fly off the lathe thus causing injury. It is very easy to catch during the coring process so it is important that the piece is securely mounted on the lathe.

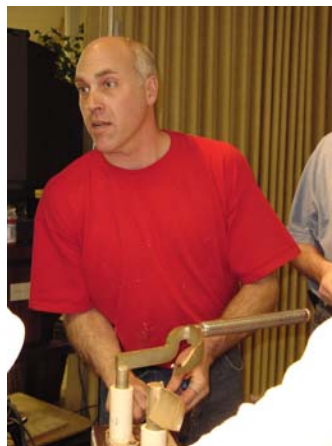


13 inch Ambrosia Maple bowl Joel turned

Joel started off cleaning up a 13 inch bowl cored out of a much larger piece of Ambrosia Maple. Being used to a much more powerful lathe, Joel found the clubs Delta 1642 a bit challenging but was able to complete the bowl by resetting the lathe occasionally.

After cleaning up the 13" bowl, he mounted a huge piece of Ambrosia Maple measuring 15" across. He mounted the McNaughton coring system and using the large set of cutters, he began the process of coring out a twelve inch bowl. This too took a little longer than planned, but the end results were worth the wait..

While we took a break, Jeff Bennet and Joel setup the OneWay Coring system and mounted the 13" core that we had just removed.



Joel setting up the OneWay coring system the smaller

We all took our seats and watched as Joel started using the OneWay System. Never using the system before, he turned the reins over to Jeff. Jeff jumped in started cutting through the piece until he ran into problems with the blade coming loose. The OneWay was working fine but a little slower and since the lathe wasn't cooperating Joel broke out

McNaughton cutters and finished coring out the bowl blank.

Despite a slow start we had a great demonstration thanks to Joel Benson and Jeff Bennet.

Don't forget to Renewal your Membership

Presidents Corner:

By Hershel Miller



Hershel Miller Photo by Howard Malone

Thanks – To Joel Benson for an outstanding demonstration on “Coring or Bowl Saving” methods! Joel had to deal with a lathe that didn’t want to cooperate with the task at hand! However, Joel persisted and the demonstration was certainly impressive! Our hats are off to you Joel – Many Thanks!!

This meeting demonstration produced a more intense cleanup requirement (Joel has a knack for making a mess!). Many thanks for all of the support in stowing our equipment and cleaning up after the meeting. Your willingness to help allowed us to put the meeting room back together in record time – thanks!

The Year 2005 – Safety note – When using CA Glue – Make sure the glue is setup prior to turning the lathe on. Also, stand to one side when turning the lathe on, as this will ensure that any residual glue will not sling out in your face.

Personal Goals for 2005 – Pick an area that gives you problems and make every effort to become efficient in this area. You might consider reading a book, watching a video, or taking a class. Therefore, set a goal to select an item requiring the areas you want to improve in and turn it until you’re pleased enough to put it in the Instant Gallery!

Instant gallery – February’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 profes-

sional 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 response for our quarries.

From AAW – Begin making plans to attend the 2005 Symposium in Kansas City, as this will be a well-attended event and early planning will ensure all your goals are complied with! AAW web site has information as well as the American Woodturner.

The Skill of the Turner: – How do I improve my turning skills, “you ask?” Simply by spending time behind the lathe helps – but having set a goal prior to turning the lathe on is a giant leap towards improvement! Forcing yourself to turn a chosen form or shape develops discipline in tool selection and usage.

Topic for March 26th meeting: -- Taming the Skew and Ways to Avoid a Catch: – Ah-ha – your skew giving you trouble – well maybe this month’s demonstration will shed a bit of light on why this tool gives you so much trouble! In addition, why do “catches” occur? We’re going to explore some of the reasons tool usage causes catches and explain how they can be avoided! A bit of insight – we cause catches by the way we present the tool to the wood – the tool is innocent.

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

February 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 January meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter. Our Treasurer, John Stubblefield, was absent due to illness and the reading of the Treasurer's report was carried over to the March meeting. A total of 40 Members and 2 visitors signed in at the meeting.

Hershel reminded the members to be sure to renew their AAW and Midsouth Woodturners Guild memberships. Copies of the current 2005 Roster were available for pick up at the business table.

To date, 67 members have renewed their membership and we have 9 new members. Our annual dues are \$15 and you must be an AAW member. Please renew your membership if you have not already done so.

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

Our demonstrator for the February meeting was Joel Benson. Joel demonstrated bowl coring techniques. He showed us the McNaughton system and explained the procedures to follow to properly core a bowl.

Chuck Ludwigsen presented the idea of starting a "Bring it Back" item in the raffle. One piece of wood from the raffle is chosen to be the "Bring it Back" item. The person winning that item is expected to turn it and bring it to next month's meeting for display in the Instant Gallery. The membership approved, an item was chosen and we should have our first "Bring it Back" item at the March meeting.

Upcoming activities include:

March 26: Taming the Skew, Bill Newsom.

April 23: Lidded Candy Dish, Mike Kelly.

See you all in March.

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:

Norm Fowler

Chuck Ludwigsen

Joel Benson

Don Wilcut

David Daleke

Cecil Cravens

Terry Reynolds

DuPree Cooper

Larry Marley

Norman Jester

Jeff Bennet

Ryan McMullen

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.



Larry Marley won this months Raffle Challenge. If he brings this piece of Ambrosia Maple in next two months turned he earns five free raffle tickets.

SHOP TALK

By Steve Heathman

I decided to head on over to Bill Newsom's house. He will be demonstrating this month, so I couldn't resist getting a sneak peak. Bill's day job is with Auto Zone as a Business Systems Analyst (programmer). Along with his full time job, he is a Habitat For Humanity volunteer and an avid wood turner.



Bill Newsom

Bill started turning about seven years ago when he was working on a piece of furniture that required the legs to be turned. He bought a Grizzly to turn the legs and promptly opted for a Jet mini lathe. He was self taught, mainly getting his inspiration from books and videos. He especially likes Richard Raffan and his work.

He joined Midsouth Wood Turners about five years ago when it was being held at the Catholic Church. He has attended many Symposiums and conducted many demonstrations since then. In the height of his wood turning, he would spend six hours a day and sometimes seven days a week turning.

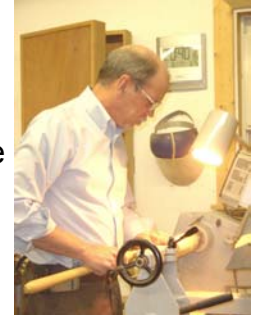
Since his beginning, he has gone through a few Lathes. After picking up his Jet mini he purchased a 12" Delta bench top on a wooden frame. That did not meet his expectations so he sold it and bought another Delta. This time he opted for the much heavier lathe — the Delta-Rockwell 12" variable speed. Next he gave the Delta 1642 with X5 mod a chance and then as recent as November, he picked up a Vega 2400T Bowl Lathe.

I asked Bill what he would change knowing what he knows now. He thought a moment and said "I wish I wouldn't have given so many of my first pieces to friends. They were so CLUNKY and out of proportion."

Not only has Bill upgraded his lathe's but he

is now turning in a very nice 24' X 24' shop. When I first met Bill about three years ago he was turning under his carport.

My son, Steven, has been showing a lot of interest in turning so he joined me for Bill's interview. I believe Bill noticed the interest my son has in turning. He started showing Steven how to use a skew and by the time we left had given him a project to bring to the next meeting.



Bill using a Skew

Thank you for letting us come out to your shop. I'm looking forward to your demonstration.

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. 21 members had items displayed in our last instant gallery.

**Terry Reynolds
Hershel Miller
Larry Marley
Brad Patterson
Steve Heathman
Keith Burns
Joe Adamsom
Sandi Speier
Ryan McMullen
Jim Dunham
Wiley Patterson**

**Bill Shaw
Joe Griggs
Don Wilcut
Tim Tolbert
Cecil Craven
Bob Hobbs
Dennis Paullus
Glen Alexander
DuPree Cooper
Brad McCollum**

HUGE Gallery! Unfortunately, I was not able to include all of the pictures in the newsletter. Check out the web page in the February gallery for additional pictures not published in the newsletter.

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: Hershel Miller
Lidded Box
FAR LEFT: Terry Reynolds
Large Natural Edge Bowl from Ash
RIGHT: Don Wilcut
Segmented Bowl - 2x4 Pine
FAR RIGHT: Bill Shaw
Bowl turned - Rosewood
Far Left: Brad Patterson
Platter - quilted Hickory
LEFT: Bob Hobbs
Vase Red Cedar/Yellow Cypress
RIGHT: Joe Griggs
Bowl - Norfolk Pine

FAR LEFT: Tim Tolbert
Bowl - Osage Orange
LEFT: Cecil Cravens
Segmented Bowl - White Oak
RIGHT: Keith Burns
Segmented Vase - Oak/Walnut

LEFT: Dennis Paullus
Footed Carved Hollow Form
Mesquite and Cocobolo

RIGHT: Steve Heathman
Bowl - Spalted Maple Burl

LEFT: DuPree Cooper
Natural Edge Bowl - Box Elder

FAR RIGHT: Larry Marley
Bat - Ash
RIGHT: Glen Alexander
Duck Call - Pink Ivory

FAR LEFT: Ryan McMullen
Pen/Pencil/Letter Opener - Cedar

LEFT: Jim Dunham
Candle Sticks - Cedar
FAR RIGHT: Sandi Speier
Egg Stand - Mesquite
RIGHT: Brad McCollum
Natural Edge Vase - Maple Burl

Skew Chisel's

By: Hershel Miller

By: Hershel Miller

Oval Stock:

The rectangular skew is still the "skew of choice of some turners," but, the most significant modification of the traditional skew is the use of oval-section stock. This reduces the point's travel to almost nothing. It's much more controllable than the old style and, with a long bevel, can reach into very narrow spaces. It is much lighter than a similar-width rectangular tool, so less tiring to use. This can be a disadvantage when cutting a curved surface, because more bulk and a wider edge to the stock give greater stability and resistance to the vibrations caused by the wood's fast-rotating square edges. Like most spindle tools the handle of a skew chisel does not need to be long, as it often is needed to pass in front of the body.

Edge Profile:

A skew's edge is usually straight but there are advantages in one that's curved. Indeed, some makers now supply them curved. The main advantage is that however you position the tool on a straight sided piece, only a short section of the edge will contact the wood at any one time.

With a straight edge, it's possible to accidentally position the tool so that the whole of the edge contacts the wood. This usually brings disaster, as there's only one angle at which the bevel will support the edge, and this is hard to achieve. A curved edge also makes it easier to turn a concave curve or cove (this should only be tried with lots of experience).

Sharpening:

All turning tools must be sharp, but the skew will only achieve its full potential if it's razor sharp. The bevels should be only slightly concave, and you should aim for single facets on each - because the edge should be supported by close contact between bevel and wood surface, and big deviations from these characteristics will make this more difficult.

Sharpen the skew with the edge parallel to the grinder's axle, so that the bevel has the same shape as the outside of the stone along its entire length. When using a bench grinder, the tool must not be pressed onto the wheel, which must be dressed to make it flat and to cut cleanly.

When sharpening an oval-section skew, the tool must be rocked from side to side - enough to ensure that contact between edge and stone is even along the whole edge.

A curved edge is best achieved by holding the tool in the normal way to add the bevels. A curved edge works best if the long point is not rounded over, so the point is best left unmodified while reshaping.

Usage:

I read books by Richard Raffan, yet I did not start to realize the skew's full potential until I had been practicing hours a day for several years. Admittedly I did not have the benefit of hands-on instruction, so was largely working it out for myself. No matter how much help you have in the way articles, books, videos and personal instruction, nothing will give you the feel for the tool that constant use does. Also, once you become proficient with the skew and fail to use it regularly, you lose the feel. The up side of this is there is a much shorter learning curve in regaining the feel.

Novice turners should get a supply of green limbs of between 2" and 3" in diameter and 8" to 10" in length. They should spend time doing the exercises of making a series of "V"-cuts, Finishing/Facing cuts, shearing planning cuts, and beads. Only when they're confident, is it worth putting a piece of dry wood on the lathe and starting a project. If you try to produce a finished item before you've learned the technique of using this most versatile tool, you will experience a catch which could turn you completely off to ever trying to master this tool.

Officers and Board Members

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2nd VP Norm Fowler - (H) 901-867-2299

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

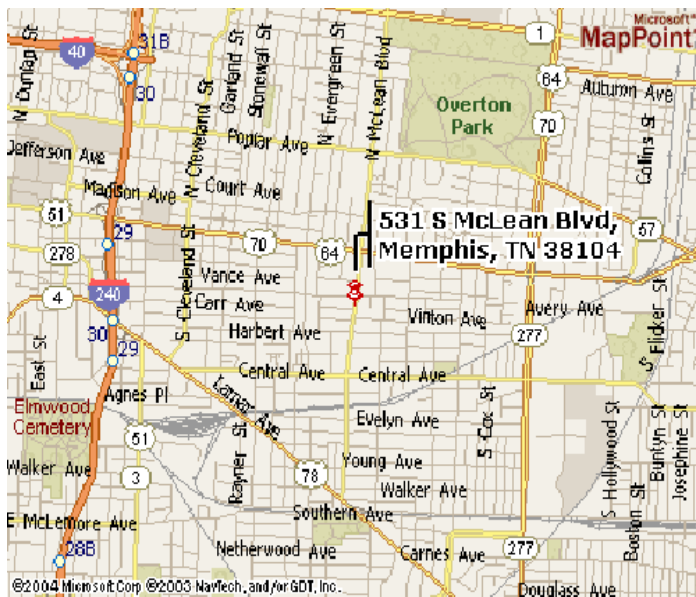
Board Members:

Steve Heathman - heathman@earthlink.net

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Chuck Ludwigsen chuck@Ludwigsen.org (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:

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+.

• **February Meeting:**

40 members and 2 visitors

Classified:

OLDER DELTA (POS 32" BETWEEN CENTER) REVERSE SWITCH, TOOL REST AND FACE PLATE. READY TO PLUG-IN & TURN \$150.00 CALL ROBERT JOHNSON AT 525-3200

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.



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Saturday 9:00AM—12:00 noon



Class Schedule

FINISHING THE FINISH	Sat, Mar 26th 12pm
BASIC SCROLLSAW	Sat, Apr 2nd 12pm
WOOD&WOOD PROPERTIES	
BASIC TABLESAW	Mon, Apr 4th 6-9pm
FINGER JOINT JIG	Sat, Apr 9th 12pm
JOINERY	Mon, Apr 11th 6-9pm
TABLE SAW JIGS	Sat, Apr 16th 12pm
JIGS	Mon, Apr 18th 6-9pm

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