Between Turns

Michigan Association of Woodturners

A chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

October 2015

Ted Gozdzialski continued his Kendama demonstration.

November's Demonstrator will be Chuck Ruby showing us how he turns his ornaments.

Chuck brought the October treats. Leroy is bringing the November treats.

Thank you everyone who donated bowls for the Autistic Center fundraiser.

Saturday October 31 the DAW will be hosting Nick Agar. 50.00 for the day. For those who have not seen Nick Agar demonstrate he is worth the trip to Pontiac. He is known for his Viking Bowl.

A bowl with texture and colored with air brush and wax.

There is still time to donate tops to help the club reach the goal of 4000 tops. Feel free to come to Open Turning. Top-A-Thons will be scheduled soon. Diameters should be >1/5" and only use a bees wax/Mineral oil finish.

* Roster was passed around for all to update for accuracy

A good time was had at the OVWG Symposium. There were a number of interesting demonstrations.

Please talk to Tom if you would be willing to demonstrate.

What demonstrations or demonstrators would you like to see in 2016?

Ceramic Bowls from Food Bank fund raiser

Upcoming Dates

2015 Meetings :

November 1, December 6 Holiday Party

2015 Open Turning :

November 14, December 19

-Meetings are held monthly on the first Sunday of each month from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm at Paul Beemann's 2075 East Rattalee Lake Rd Holly MI 48442.

Instant Gallery

Walt Dickinson	*Birch Bowl*
Bob Makow	*Cherry Bowl 12”*
Bob Makow	*Maple Platters*
L. Shew	*Elm Bowl with Worm Holes*
Peter Stewart	*Ash Natural Edge Bowl*
K Colussi	*Segmented Bowl*

Ted Gozdzialski – Kendama Part 2

Ted continued the second part of his Kendama demonstration. I the first part he turned the sphere. In the second half he turns the handle out of two pieces of wood.

Start with Spindle Stock 1.25”Diameter 5.25”Long
Rough turn the spindle
Ted likes to use a bedan.
Turn a tenon on one end of the spindle. Turn a taper to the other end going down to 1.25” diameter.
Mount the spindle I a chuck. You may need to install smaller jays on your chuck.
Turn a cup in the end of the spindle. Ted then used a scrapper to t clean up the cup.
The handle is then mounted between centers. A ¾” hold can be drilled into a golf ball to cover the point in the live center in the tail stock.
Mark the handle the handle at 5.25”, 3”, and 4”.
You can turn beads into the spindle if you want to the handle to look fancier.
Taper the handle down to the 5.25” mark.
Clean up the spindle using a skew.
Sand and apply a finish such as bees wax.

Gene’s Inside Out Turning.

Ted Gozdzialski – Kendama Part 2

Ted parted off the end using a skew.
Mount a second blank between centers.
Turn the spindle down to 2” on one end and a little smaller on the other end.
Mark the center and turn down to 1” diameter.
Turn a cove at the center of the spindle going down to the 1” diameter.
Beads can be turned for a fancier look.
Sand and apply bees wax finish.
Ted mounted the spindle in a chuck to the end. Sand paper was rolled the spindle helps to grip the spindle. Used paper works better to not mare the wood.
Turn a cup in the end. Sand and apply your finish.
Reverse the spindle and repeat the process.
Drill a hole through the center of the chuck so the it will mount on the tapered end of the handle.
Attach the second spindle to the handle.
A 20” string is used to attach the previously turned sphere to the handle.










Gene’s Inside Out Turning.

Demonstrators Wanted

Anyone willing to demonstrate at the monthly meeting can contact Tom or Pete to schedule.

We have a number of talented members, so please feel free to share your talents with the club. There are some really interesting projects that members bring in each month for the show and tell table. Many of the club members would be interested in seeing how these projects are created.

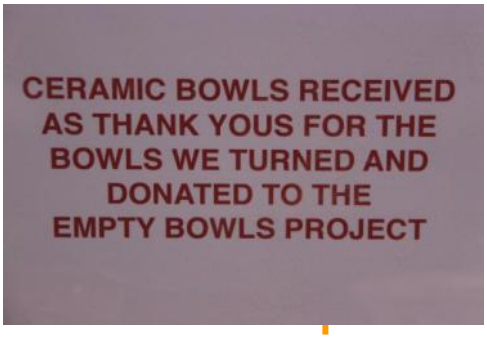
MAW members give back by supporting Food Banks and Children Hospital.

New Location Search

Thank you for everyone that donated turned bowls for the FEBE Food Bank Fundraiser.

Here are some of the ceramic bowls that people received at the fund raiser.

The MAW would like to increase participation for next years fun raiser.



Coring System

Come to a mentor workshop and take advantage of the clubs Coring System. Coring a bowl allows you to turn several bowls out of a single piece of wood.

You can see Dave made 4 bowls and another small inner blank from his piece of wood. Turning a bowl the standard way would have resulted in one bowl.

This is useful when turning figured or expensive wood as you can turn multiple bowls for the cost of one bowl blank.

The Coring system is for the Powermatic lathe. Sign up with Dave Worden if you want to use the Coring System
Dave Worden
248-917-2822.

MAW Open Turning

The Michigan Association of Woodturners sponsors a monthly Open Turning event for members. The workshop is typically held the second Saturday following the meeting. Check the Club Calendar for specific dates. This is a time for you to come to the club bring a piece of wood and turn something. People are there to answer questions and provide guidance. Feel free to try something new or bring in a piece you are having issues with. Cost is $10.00 and a lunch will be provided.

Tom Mogford …….	810-629-6176
Pete Buccellato ……...	248-634-7622
Bill Magee …..……	734-981-6117

Making a flat spot on the tool handle will stop the tool from rolling off of the lathe bed or work table.

Photo's

If you have digital photo's that you would like to have considered for use in the newsletter, please send them to the editor at:

Jeffatwayne@yahoo.com

Finishing Pens

by Don Ward, Red River Pens (www.redriverpens.com)

Note: Please be aware that some, if not all, finishes can cause reactions to those who are sensitive to them.

The topic of finishing pens comes up at least once a week on the pen forums with subjects such as these:

- What is the best finish?
- What is a quick and durable finish?
- What is the most durable finish?
- Which finish is the easiest to apply?
- Is a sanding sealer necessary?

Which finish is quick, easy, and durable? While those three qualities don't go together, I would say that none of the finishes I've tried are especially difficult. Some take more time than others and some are more durable than others, but I've not come across a finish that is especially problematic.The quality of the final finish will be directly proportional to the surface preparation under that finish. A quality finish on a pen starts with sanding. Sanding should start with as fine a grit as possible. I turn pens with a skew leaving a very smooth surface on which to begin sanding. I often start with 320 grit sandpaper when possible. After sanding with the first grit, stop the lathe then clean the blank and apply a sanding sealer. Then, continue sanding through finer grits. I stop sanding at 600 grit. Stopping the lathe and sanding length-wise after each grit of sandpaper is also a good practice, as is cleaning the sanding dust off of the blank. Cleaning will remove dislodged grit and keep it from interfering with the finer grits. On open grain wood, I use a slurry made from thin CA and sanding dust. The CA slurry will be discussed in more detail later. After sanding with sandpaper sand with Micro Mesh tm, a cushioned abrasive, which leaves the wood surface as smooth as glass and ready for the chosen finish. More information about Micro Mesh tm, which is available from all pen turning suppliers as well as most woodturning suppliers, can be found at www.sisweb.com/micromesh. Purchasing full sheets and cutting them into smaller swatches is much more economical than purchasing the smaller swatches in sets. Micro Mesh will last for several months and can be cleaned by placing it in the pockets of jeans or in a separate garment bag and tossing in the washing machine. It can also be used wet for wet sanding acrylics and plastics. One thing I've noticed pen turners doing (incorrectly) is assembling and handling pens as soon as the finish is applied. A newly finished pen should be given time to cool and cure before assembly and each finish has its own cure time. Learn what they are and respect that for a much better finish.

FINISHES FOR PENS

Shellac Based Friction Polish: The finish most of us started using is shellac-based friction polish. Most pen turners who make pens to give away (the recreational or casual pen turner) will continue to use shellac based friction polish. When used correctly, shellac-based friction polish produces a very stunning finish. However, all too often shellac friction polish fails to produce the finish we desire for two reasons: (1) the use of too much friction polish for each coat and/or (2) not applying enough pressure (friction) to create the heat needed to evaporate the solvent leaving the shellac behind. Ever wonder why it is called friction polish? Several coats can be applied but the pen blanks should not be handled until the final coat is completely cured. Waiting until the next day to assemble the new pen is best. A nice shellac-based friction polish finish can be ruined by handling the pen while the shellac is still warm and not fully cured. Shellac-based friction polish is not as durable or as hard as pure shellac. They have oils and solvents added that make them easy and quick to use, but reduce the durability of the finish. Remember the white rings we often find on older furniture? Those white rings were caused by moisture condensing on drinking glasses and reacting with the finish—the shellac finish. Shellac reacts with the moisture and oils from our hands and causes the finish to deteriorate and turn darker as the pens ages and is used. Shellac-based friction polish is great for turnings that will not be handled. Several profess to like this patina and that's fine. Several of us do not, and that's fine also. Pure shellac is quite durable but takes lots of time to properly apply.

Lacquer: Lacquer is one of my favorite finishes. It is not a quick finish because lacquer takes a week or two or longer to fully cure and reach its full hardness. But once it does fully cure, lacquer can be buffed to a deep shine. Lacquer can be used in several ways: (1) full strength from the can; (2) diluted using lacquer thinner; (3) spray can; or (4) the dipping lacquer. Lacquer can be purchased in gloss, semi-gloss, or satin finish. But remember, lacquer must be allowed to completely cure to its ultimate hardness before buffing. This may take several weeks depending on individual shop conditions. I prefer a 50-50 mix of gloss lacquer and lacquer thinner applied on the lathe with a clean cloth. I apply 6 or 7 coats and allow the pen to cure for two weeks before assembling and buffing. It is not a fast finish, but lacquer is a great finish for pens.

Plexiglass: After reading several threads on the pen turning forums, I think plexiglass finish has potential. Basically, the plexiglass is broken into small pieces, dissolved into acetone and applied to the pen. Smaller pieces will dissolve quicker. The solution needs to be stirred often to keep the pieces of plexiglass from forming one large mound of plexiglass reducing the total surface area of the plexiglass and requiring more time for it to dissolve. Add more plexiglass or acetone as needed to reach a solution that is close to thick syrup in consistency. The mix is applied to the pen using paper towels. Two or three coats are applied and when it dries, wet sanding seems to be the best way to sand. Wet sanding keeps down the heat and the finish doesn't melt. **Caution: use only real plexiglass**. Other clear plastics like Lexan(tm) will not work. And, the best plexiglass to use is the Cyro brand which is used by picture framers. Cyro brand Acrylite(tm) is the only sheet acrylic currently manufactured that is guaranteed not to yellow. Other brands of sheet acrylic will yellow, especially the Plexiglasstm brand. Scrap from picture framing shops can be bought cheaply or often will be given away, else it ends up in landfills.

CA (cyanoacrylate) glue with or without Boiled Linseed Oil: As will soon be revealed, finishing pens with CA glue has become my finish of choice. And, I also use boiled linseed oil with the CA. Woodturners have been using CA glue for filling checks, cracks, and gaps on woodturnings. But, CA has become a popular finish for pens. I know some turners who use CA for a finish on small bowls and spindle turnings. CA is used with and without boiled linseed oil and results are quite comparable. I've seen excellent and not so good CA finishes where CA was used with boiled linseed oil as well as without the oil. Several excellent instructional articles have been posted on the pen turning forums outlining the finishing techniques for CA glue. Go to your favorite pen turning forum and you'll find those instructions where ever the forum stores articles and instructions. My CA instructions follow. I use either a sanding sealer or a slurry of CA and sanding dust after sanding with 320 sandpaper. Sanding through 600 grit sandpaper is followed with Micro Mesh tm starting with 1500 and progressing through 12000. An application of Medium Walnut WATCO Danish oil follows. The Danish oil darkens the wood just a little and makes the grain very noticeable. The pen is now ready for the CA finish.

Here are the steps I use:

1. Tear a sheet of paper towel into six or seven strips and fold. Use a piece of paper towel folded several times, add three drops of boiled linseed oil and apply a light coat of boiled linseed oil to the spinning pen blanks, using a slow lathe speed. I use three drops for the entire pen with each coat of CA. I apply the finish at a much faster lathe speed now than I did when I first started learning. (note: if you use too much oil the CA will gunk up and not be nice and smooth or the finish will appear to have some ghosting spots, like maybe the CA is not stuck to the wood.)

2. Hold the paper towel applicator from step 1 (which was used to apply the boiled linseed oil) against the bottom side of blank. Starting with the paper towel and CA bottle on same end of pen, add a thin layer of medium CA on top of blank as the blank spins while moving the CA and towel pad from one end of the pen to the other--one pass only--then add light pressure with the paper towel on the blank, constantly moving side-to-side until the CA is dry and the surface of the pen is smooth and slick. The CA will heat up some (the heat is from the CA curing, not the friction applied by the paper towel applicator.) Repeat process for second blank. The paper towel should be kept moving from end to end and the CA will cure to a bright shiny coating. After some practice, you will be able to determine how long to keep the applicator on the blank and moving. I think many who try this remove the applicator too soon and hence the high failure rate and frustration. Now, do the same to the other half of the pen.

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3. I sometimes lightly sand between the CA layers but most of the time I don't...you will learn to tell when you should. I use very fine sandpaper (600 or 1000) or the 1500 Micromesh tm

4. Repeat step two...I do four coats of CA/boiled linseed oil.

5. After the final coat of CA/boiled linseed oil, sand with Micro Mesh tm 1500 to 12000.

6. After sanding with Micromesh tm, I buff with Tripoli, white diamond and HUT Ultra Gloss Plastic Polish.

7. Next, I use McGuire's scratch and swirl remover auto polish and I use it as directed on the tube.

8. I use no wax or other top coats over the CA finish.

That's how it's done and the result is a great durable finish for pens. After using this finish for three years now, I get such a great looking finish after the final CA/boiled linseed oil application that I have stopped the sanding after the CA application and go straight to the buffing step. This has come with practice and continual tweaking of the application process. I often apply the CA to the paper towel applicator and then apply the CA to the spinning pen, but I think learning as I have outlined may produce quicker successful results. Deviations can be developed as you become comfortable with the CA/boiled linseed oil finishing process. Happy finishing....and, OHYEAH, you should keep a can of acetone close by. You will figure out why! Do a good turn daily!