



Central Connecticut Woodturners

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturning

Dedicated to the Advancement of Woodturning
www.ccwoodturners.org

October 2009 Issue

Presidents Note:

Clubs are governed by the rules and regulations set forth by their bylaws, voted on by the membership. And every once in a while items come up that were not addressed in the original set of bylaws. In your September newsletter, you received a copy of the proposed bylaws. In comparing them to the original set, the differences are in the officer's term of office and in the life time membership benefit.

In the October meeting we will be open for discussion regarding this. Or you may contact a board member directly; as we have had a few members reach out to us already.

At the November meeting we will hopefully be ratifying the proposed bylaws. In addition, it will also be the election of officers. Please contact Chris Zibbideo (aka the Nominating committee) if you are interested in being on the CCW Board.

forever green~
Lynda

Rick & I met with Tom Wirsing, Mary Lacer, Linda Ferber and a representative from each of the 7 Yankee Symposium clubs regarding the June 2010 AAW symposium that will be here in Hartford.

They are expecting anywhere from 1600 to 2600 people attending the symposium. And to ensure everything flows smoothly, AAW has a 9 page booklet on things that need to be done. Although the symposium runs from Friday June 18th to 20th, a lot of planning and work is needed to get this to run smoothly.

There will be a HUGE need for volunteers (approx 200). And the scope of the need is vast. From packet stuffing to collecting needed odd equipment to marketing to manning the registration desk to instant gallery monitoring and more. And so that the spouses need not feel left out; there will be a spouse's craft room where they can learn a new craft or kibitz about their woodturning spouse! There will also be spouse's tours that they can take part in.

In the coming months, we will give you more information on who to contact regarding volunteering. You can volunteer for as little as 2 hours. All volunteers must register and pay in order to attend the symposium events.

Also remember:

"Maple Medley - An Acer Showcase"...will be the theme of the AAW's 2010 juried exhibit, premiering at the 24th Annual AAW Symposium. AAW invites all AAW members to apply for this new exhibition.

Anything made of maple/Acer wood. Find something that will showcase the strength, quality, or character of maple as a material. Above all be creative and imaginative.

Next Meeting:

October 27, 2009
7PM

Jim Kephart's
85 Hilliard Ave.
Manchester

Christmas Ornament demo

Q&A regarding the Bylaw updates

Bad Dogs Burl raffle
\$1ea or 6/\$5

Upcoming Events:

10/1-31 - CCW display in the Wethersfield Library

11/7 Freedom Pen Turn-a-thon at the Woodcraft in Manchester

11/24 - Election of Officers

12/13 - Holiday Party

1/8-10 - The Wood Show

In this issue:	page
Dave Eaton	2
Wood of the Month	4
CCW members	5

Fall back clocks on
Sunday November 1st



Club Dues are due – see Al Moltz

Turning a "Bowl in a Board" by Dave Eaton

Overview

The bowl in a board is a neat and unusual look with respect to what most bowl turners produce these days. It is a project that requires the turner to keep excellent tool control and a high awareness of the "ghost" material spinning about in order to assure a nicely finished object d'art without injuring a knuckle or finger.



Quite important in this project is the fact that sharp tools and extremely fine tool control help greatly reduce the need to remove imperfections left by tool marks and hopefully almost eliminate the associated sanding prior to finish. The shape of the turning does not lend itself to safe sanding under power and off-lathe hand or power sanding of the bowl/board tight intersections is usually quite tedious. With a steady hand managing the tool so as to just skim the wood during final passes it is possible to leave both a flat surface behind as well as one without surface grain tear-out, each of which is one of the main keys to a successfully finished project. Two other key abilities are; knowing how and having the ability to sharpen the tool of choice to an extreme edge such that it is capable of making these quite fine finish cuts - regardless of whether in a cutting or scraping mode, and, having what I call "The Artistic Eye" or the innate and elusive ability to look at the overall dimensions and shape of the board and the bowl bisecting it and manage these during the turning process so that a pleasing shape is developed. Not as easy as you may think...

How To Do It

To begin, select a log of a suitable size as in **Figure 1**, perhaps 10-15 inches in diameter to start and rip it in half with a chain saw, or otherwise, as is usual for side grain bowl turning. The log section should have viable wood along its full length, or with the grain, to about 120% of the short axis, or diameter, of the log (cross grain). Don't fret too much if the blank is not cut with square ends or if it is not especially a "regular rectangle" shape. That will only add to the character of the final piece.

The reason for this extra length is that it allows making of a pronounced "board" that is quite longer than the resulting board (and bowl) will be wide. This is a nice appealing look and maintains the concept of a "bowl" inside of a "board" versus just a bowl that has some square wings sticking out from the corners. The latter of which is a fine shape but less the theme of this article and of a "different" look.

Once the half-log section is ready, mount it on the lathe with bark side facing the tailstock as in **Figure 2**. If you wish to try making a Natural Edge then reverse this. Mount the blank between centers with either a faceplate or a big spur drive secured in/on the headstock taper/thread or as I prefer one that is held by a chuck.



"Spur drives" suitable for such use in a four jaw scroll chuck are available from Craft Supply or Oneway Manufacturing among others. Craft Supply calls them "[Quick Change Drive Centers](#)" like [p/n 361-0102](#) (see left). It is recommended to use the two spur drive, vs. the four, for driving bark or irregular bowl blank surfaces as these dig deep into the grain when lined up in the same direction.

The other more traditional size hefty four prong spur drive that fits into the chuck like a woodworm screw is [Oneway's p/n Chuck Spur 2027A](#) (see right). Most of these solutions sell for \$40-50 so faceplates are the most economical approach, even if not the most convenient.



Get the blank is spinning at the highest speed you are safe and comfortable with and it's time to start shaping the bottom nearest the tailstock. A 1/2 or 3/8 inch Crown or Sorby deep fluted bowl gouge is great for this (or similar). Start with pulling or drawing

cuts with the flutes almost closed (like a backwards "C" touching the wood at both the top and bottom) from the center out to remove bark and start to get a continuous surface without any bark or "air spots" - but only follow through to about half way up the blank towards the rim. We are not in fact going to cut some area about 1/3 of the way from the rim to the foot so that we leave both a raw wood edge on the long grain side, a chain saw cut edge on the cross grain edge and a "rectangular-ish" board blank connecting it all. See **Figure 3** for a look of where to stop. Remember to create a nice clean tenon so that you can grab it with a chuck when you go to reverse the orientation of the blank, or make other provisions.

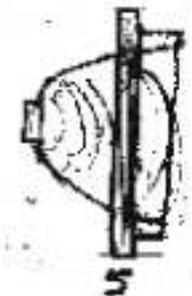


Once at this stage we want to try and cut the other side, the rim side, of the bowl to get a feel for where the bowl will ultimately be and to help visualize the board thus allowing decisions to be made regarding where it will sit – how high or low the board will be in the bowl profile. This proves difficult for anyone who is not truly ambidextrous as the handle of the tool wants to be very near the headstock vs. the usual tailstock or straight out position that most right handers accomplish with ease. If you cannot get the knack of this by switching hands or stance don't sweat it. You can take care of this step later when the blank is reversed.



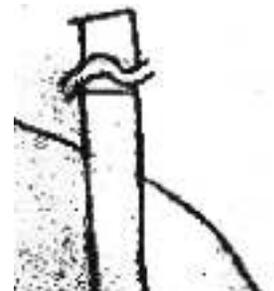
At this time try to reduce the thickness of the board and the rim height of the bowl so that the board looks good and the rim has no imperfections such as chips or tight pith rings that might lead to issues later. It is however a good idea at this time to reduce the diameter of the rim area to one a bit more flowing with the bottom curve to get a feel for what the look is like. Make sure to leave it big as "changes" may be coming up and if you go too small, well, there may need to be some design alterations... if you know what I mean.

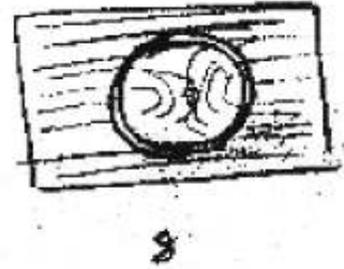
Once the rim is all set for final height you can make some decisions about the final height and thickness of the board, which you have kept extra thick up to now. To reduce tear out and get a nice clean flat board on the bottom (foot) side, start your bowl gouge off from just outside the diameter of the ghost image and run the bevel flat into the wood, making very shallow but consistent cuts along the board surface until almost hitting the bowl. Keep the bevel flat! It should be just riding the surface and maybe doing a little cutting too. This will leave very few tool marks if you can get the hang of it. Stop the lathe and use a straight edge to check the flatness of the board at the side of the bowl a few times. Cupping or a gap in the center means you need to cut more thickness at the edge of the board whereas a bump or bow means don't cut at the outside ghost but do so more close in to the bowl. Again don't worry about getting a clean transition at the bowl and board intersection, the bowl gouge is just not the right shape tool to do that.



Now that at least the final shape of the bottom side of the board and the bowl are established, switch to a Spindle Gouge that has a "pointy" or thin tip so as to allow cutting the small final distance from the bowl radius and the edge of the board alternately. Cut a little one direction and then the other so that the critical intersection is cut cleanly and has no "fuzz". Take great care here as this cleanly intersecting board to bowl interface can make or break the whole look you are going for. A less than perfect job will not look good and it's virtually impossible to sand later unless the sides of your bowl are basically vertical. What we are looking for is precision. Sometimes for the very last trim a skew chisel can be used (cutting mode, not scraping), but with nerves of steel and great care.

Once satisfied take the bowl blank from between centers and reverse its orientation so that the rim is now closest to the tail stock as in **Figure 5**. Use of a chuck here is a significant advantage but always use the tailstock when you can. Once it becomes an object that you cannot get around then remove it, but for mechanical stability and the added safety it should always be used until it's in the way. Continue to trim the diameter and angle or shape of the rim so that it blends into the curve on the bottom of the bowl as if the board was not even there. Go slowly as you do not want to make the diameter or shape too small causing a bad look or require more work on the bottom side again. Make sure to clean up the bowl and board intersection as before, but this time it will likely be a bit more challenging due to the complimentary angle of this side of the board with respect to the angle you cut before, as in the figure shown. For just that reason, bowls with highly flared rims should be avoided until you try your skill at a few easier ones.





One all surfaces are cleanly cut and the board thickness is about what you will make the bowl wall thickness become, you are ready to hollow. From this point on we are really just making a regular solid rim bowl. Use your bowl gouge or favorite tool to evacuate the waste wood from the bowl and make finish cuts. Continue and finish the foot of the bowl as you normally would use Jumbo Jaws, a Compression chuck or a vacuum system as desired.

Sit back and look at the board you just made and that neat bowl sticking right through it. Everybody will wonder how you ever made such a wildly unique piece of art!

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References:

Craft Supply - Quick Change Spur Drive

[http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/store/Lathe Accessories Drive Centers Quick Change Drive Center quick change center?Args=\)](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/store/Lathe_Accessories_Drive_Centers_Quick_Change_Drive_Center_quick_change_center?Args=)

Oneway Manufacturing - 1 inch Chuck Spur

<http://oneway.ca/spindle/spurs.htm>

Wood of the Month!

Macassar Ebony

Diospyros (Ebenaceae)

Grows: Sri Lanka, S. India, Indonesia & the Philippines.

Health risks: The dust can cause acute dermatitis, conjunctivitis and sneezing

Description: The heartwood is black with reddish or brown streaks, which can be grey-brown, pale brown or yellowish-brown.

Properties: It is a very dense, hard & heavy wood. The black heartwood is very brittle. It is very difficult to work with both hand & machine tools. Pre-drilling is always required & has a severe blunting effect on cutting tools.

Typical Uses: Cabinetwork, billiard cues butts, inlays, carvings, musical instruments, veneers, handles & turnery.

Supposedly felled only by quota, but it has been listed as vulnerable. Certified lumber is unlikely to be available; and if it is, it is very expensive.

The CCW holiday part is only a few weeks away. Please let Lynda know if you are coming (and/or bringing your spouse) so the food can be ordered. The event is from 11-4, with food being set out at noon. Remember to bring your grab bag gift (aka a wrapped hand turned item), a beverage (coffee, tea & cider will be provided) and a dessert or appetizer to share with all. Door prizes will be given out! So come & have some fun with your fellow turners.

Newsletter editor is looking for your articles, announcements of demos/shows, reviews of tools, websites and stuff.

CCW MEMBERS OUT & ABOUT

CT Valley School of
Woodworking

Open House
September 13th.

Tom Stevenson
working on the lathe



Lynda Zibbideo on the
treadle lathe



Our display



Beautiful tables



Photos by:
Allan Wells

NOTE from the Librarian:

Did you know that CCW has a library? We have a collection of books, magazines, DVDs and VHS tapes. Come check out what we have. Each item requires a \$5 deposit, paid in cash to the librarian at the time of check out; and is on loan for a month. For those of you who may have something from the library, please return it at the next meeting, so everyone can enjoy. Thanks, Walt.

Wethersfield Library Exhibit Oct 1st -31st



Some great wood
turnings by CCW
members.

Photo by: Lynda Zibbideo

Ken Rowe won "Best in
Show" at the Durham
Fair....ok I know it is flat
work – but the ribbon
buttons are round!

Photo by: Vivien Larouche



Tom Stevenson won 1st
prize for his birdie at the
Haddam Fair

Photo by: Linda Stevenson

Corey Anderson making wine bottle stoppers at the
Manchester Woodcraft on Oct 10th



Photos by:
Lynda Zibbideo





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~ Legal Stuff ~

The Central Connecticut Woodturners (CCW) was founded in 1994 to support the needs of woodturners in the central Connecticut area. Its purpose is to promote a higher standard of excellence in woodturning by providing an ever expanding source of information and resources to its membership. Memberships are calendar basis from January 1 through December 31. Annual dues are \$35 or \$20 for six months or less.

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Central Connecticut Woodturners - Membership Information

New: Renew:

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Dues (\$35) payable to:
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