



Volume 22 Number 6

June 2009

Next Meeting Details	
Topic:	<i>Tips for Turning a Bowl with an Undercut Rim</i>
Speaker:	Rick Angus
Date:	4 Jun 2009
Learn Rick's process for undercutting a bowl's rim.	
Learn & Turn	
5:05 to 6:25 p.m.	
Topic:	Finials
Leader:	Reid Gilmore
Make a fine, delicate little finial to sweeten up your next beautiful lidded box - or turn it upside down to make a hanging icicle. Learn work holding methods and tool technique.	

Presidents Message

Mike Stone

Our May meeting with the Demo by Jimmy Clewes was a huge success! I hope you all came away with inspiration to try new projects in your own shops. Standing ovation to Jerry Sambrook for coordinating the entire event, and to Chris Durkee for the video setup that enabled all to see in detail what Jimmy was doing at the lathe. Well done guys! Thanks also to Henry Fairlie and Dave Eaton for providing photos of the event!

Our June demo promises to be entertaining and very educational, as Rick Angus will show us how to turn a bowl with an undercut rim. Many of you have seen bowls that Rick brings in for show and tell and you know how beautiful they are. I hope you are as excited as me to learn the techniques Rick uses to create these showpieces.

Until then: be well, share what you know with others, and above all, have fun!

Minutes of January Meeting

Tim Elliot

There was a very abbreviated business meeting tonight led by Chris Durkee and Jerry Sambrook.

Guests/new members: Many (due to the demo).

Chris Durkee is still looking for more Learn & Turn topic ideas. Please contact him with suggestions. The Learn & Turn topic for June will be finials. For July, sharpening.

Several members asked about the current status of the Craft center, but there was no news.

Program: Jimmy Clewes demonstrated an oriental box in curly maple and an end-grain vase in apple wood.

Letters to the Editor

Dear CNEW Members

I want to send along a heartfelt THANKS for all the pieces you have contributed to "Project Goodwill". I am just blown away by every ones generosity. It is hard to say how many people we have gotten off the ground with this little project, but it is about 300. I should mention that our sister clubs ART and the Cape Cod Turners have also helped wonderfully in this effort. Thank you so much for helping to make the world a better place.

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If any of you would like to have a piece sent to the big event in California, please bring it to our June meeting.

Thanks in advance.

Sincerely,

Charlie Croteau

Jimmy Clewes

Micky Goodman

We were very fortunate to have Jimmy Clewes demonstrate for us on his lidded box as well as his natural edge vase. I am sure all of us were in awe to see him make the lidded box with the block of wood spinning at 3,200 RPM.

I know that I, sitting in the front row was "anxious" knowing that if the block of wood came off the lathe, it would have taken my head off and sent it to the back row. It didn't and I am here writing this review.



Thin-walled Apple Vase by Jimmy Clewes

The Vase Jimmy made was made out of fresh apple wood and ended up having a diameter of 7 1/2" and 6 1/2" tall. The base was 2 3/4" in diameter just about 1/3 of the diameter. The wall thickness is 1/8". And surprising to me, is that the sanding could have started at 320 grit rather than the 100 grit where I would start sanding pieces I make.

Most of us make natural edge bowls out of side grain wood where Jimmy made this bowl out of end grain. The natural coloring of the bowl is outstanding. Traditional to pieces I have made from green apple wood small cracks did appear in the drying process but a touch of CA closed them off. It was unfortunate that a small piece of the base by a bark inclusion did brake-off in turning.

This opened a whole other opportunity to me of bowl work, and using wood that would have "passed up" before for a natural edge bowl now very acceptable.

I found Jimmy's demo extremely informative and entertaining. He knew how to keep the audience's attention; I didn't even nod off once.

Jimmy Clewes

Rick Angus

Jimmy Clewes graced us with two demonstrations this evening: a lidded oriental box and a thin-walled endgrain vase. The box kicked us off.

Jimmy's box began as a demonstration and has evolved through many demonstrations as one with flowing curves, matched by the tight-fitting lid.

Jimmy started by mounting the 10 x 4 x 2 3/4 " block at its center on a screw chuck. Spinning the blank as fast as possible (above 2000 rpm) jimmy began to create the flowing shape of the wings of the box and create a square tenon (to fit our chuck) for working on the opposite side of the piece.

Once the shape was established, he increased the speed to 3200 rpm to take advantage of the fineness of cut at high speed.

Using the wing of the swept-back bowl gouge, Jimmy finished cutting with a shear cut —quite fine at high speed. The crisp line delineating the bottom rim of the bowl and the wings was made with a detail gouge, bevel guided, very gently.

With the bottom done except for removing the tenon, the piece was remounted on the tenon and the bowl portion of the box was created with a bowl gouge using the usual bevel-guided leading edge cut.

Jimmy Clewes



Jimmy addressing the audience before turning.



The crowd, enraptured.



Turning the rectangular blank on a screw chuck.



Describing...



Jerry feeling hungry...quite nicely, he shared with the crowd.

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The inside of the bow rim was finished with a square inside shoulder to accommodate the lid... later.



The tool approaching the rim dead perpendicular to the rim to form the square shoulder in the rim of the bowl.



Square shoulder inside rim for tight fit.



Concentration

The lid (5 x 3 ¼ x 2 ¼") is a smaller version of the graceful curve of the wings of the bow except that it has slightly tapered tenon as the lid.

The tenon was cut with a steep taper, fit to the box and turned with a bit of friction marking the contact

point—the OD of the box was now marked on the ID of the lid. From here, the lid tenon was modified to give a very slight taper that fitted the box snugly. This is important as this fit drives the box for the bottom-finishing step.



The lid: a smaller version of the curve of the bowl.

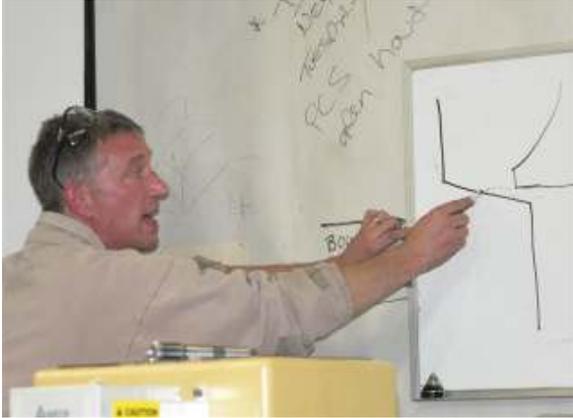


Cutting the graceful curve of the bottom surface of the box.



Box bottom fitted to lid tenon.

With the box affixed to the inside of the lid by a jam chuck, the tenon was removed and the bottom shape completed.



Cutting a tapered tenon in the lid to mark the matching diameter of the bowl.



Checking the fit of the lid to the bowl.



Assesing the box ID.



Finishing the bottom of the box



Done!



Whistle while you work.



Cross-grain knob with v-cut detail.

Translucent vase

Jimmy began by turning the blank between centers. He oriented the piece to give a nice rim and prepared a tenon at the base. He began shaping the outside with a bowl gouge, sending shavings across the front of the shop.



Work mounted...



Basic rough cutting to true blank...



A little more.



The tool of choice is a bowl gouge with swept back edges.



Jimmy put these spaghetti-esque chips here; moments before, they were the just under the bark of this apple log.



These chips however appeared as a prank—but it didn't phase Jimmy.



I took a bit of work, chips flying to get to here.



Detail of tenon mount.



Roughed log showing insipient rim.



End View.



Roughed log tenon mounted in scroll chuck.

Jimmy then mounted the tenon in the scroll chuck and examined the top "end" of the piece. His focus next was on cutting about an inch of the rim, both inside and outside.



End view of top of the vase-to-be.

With the rim established, he created the entire inside form while retaining the large excess of wood on the outside. This allowed for a stable cut but the requirement of deciding the form the inside only. Following that, he cut the outside in increments, matching the wall thickness as he progressed.

As the work progressed, Jimmy revealed to us that he had created a pleasing interior shape.



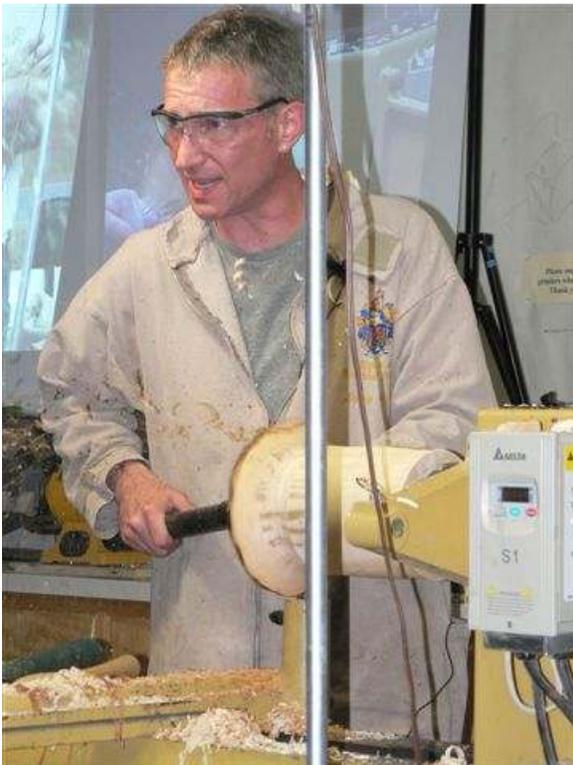
Rim finished; wall thickness established



Honing the tool before the final cut.



The finished vase interior.



Talking and Turning: shaping the vase by establishing the shape—inside first.



Refining the outside shape and wall thickness one section at a time.



The vase portion is done.

With the vase portion complete, Jimmy progressed on to the short stem and foot. He chose to make the foot about one third of the rim diameter.



Determining the size of the foot.



Foot completed, it's ready to part-off.



Translucent it is...at least when wet.



I like it.

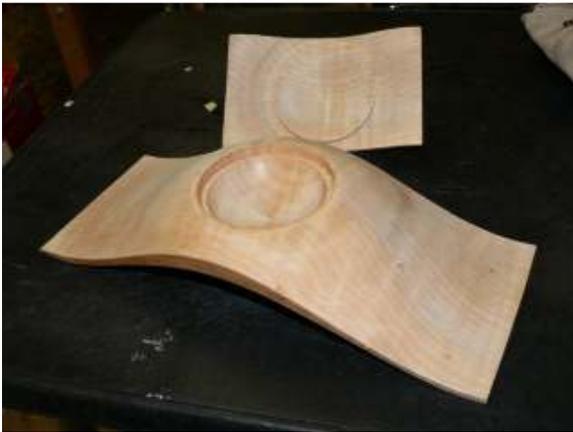


Chips don't generally land on a turner's shoulders...but when you demonstrate for CNEW, strange things just seem to happen.

A quick parting-off of the piece from the stub in the chuck and the piece is done.



Finished box; closed.



Finished box; open.



Another Johannes Michelson fan at the wrong demonstration



Jerry Sambrook confusing Jimmy's work with that of Johannes Michelson. How's the fit, Jerry?



Token of appreciation to Jimmy.

The CNEW Skew

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Find us on the web @ www.cnew.org

Membership Application

To join or renew membership, please complete this form and a check made payable to CNEW and bring it to a CNEW meeting or mail it to:

Treasurer, Central New England Woodturners
c/o Jon Berke
P.O. Box 224
Hopkinton MA 01748

Annual dues: \$20 including e-mail delivery of newsletter; \$25 for postal delivery of newsletter.

Name: _____
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e-Mail: _____

Please check appropriately below

- New Member
 Returning Member
 e-Mail Newsletter (\$20.00)
 Snail Mail Newsletter (\$25.00)

Please let us know of your interests:

How long have you been turning? _____

What programs would you like to see at meetings? _____

Would you like to demonstrate at a meeting? Yes/No If so, what topics do you offer? _____