



Established 1987

First Woodturning Club in New England, AAW #26

**Next Meeting
February 2nd, 2016
6:30 PM**

**Learn N Turn
Richard Hunt
Pen Turning**

**Demonstration
Mike Smith
TBA**

President's Message February 2017

President's Letter, February 2017



I had to miss the February club meeting because I had out of town visitors. I was told that in my absence the business part of the meeting was over in about 10 minutes! While I doubt that the brevity of the business announcements was due solely to me not being there, it did give me pause for thought. In an effort to keep the business end of the meeting as short as possible the executive committee has come up with a plan. Each officer will submit agenda items prior to the meeting. Executive members will have to stick to the agenda (me included) and we will also try to keep to a minimum off topic items. We will see how the March meeting goes and try to refine if from there.

The wood swap over the past two months has been great. There has been a very good selection of wood and folks have been eager to get their hands on it. Special thanks to Ron and Mike for organizing this.

Random Thoughts:

For the past couple of weeks I have tried my hand at segmented turning. Some of it has gone pretty well but other aspects of it have confused the hell out of me. Nonetheless I am having a good time even though I ran my knuckles into an 80-grit sanding drum exposing the bone. Shop tip: blood stains wood so keep some latex gloves close by. When you start to bleed just slip on a glove and continue working. The glove keeps the blood contained.

The executive committee has met twice in the past few weeks. We have been focusing on updating the by-laws which is tedious and boring work, but necessary. Special thanks to Ralph who took on the task of trying to tame that beast and for developing business cards for the club as well.

Walked into Todd's shop last week to see a HUGE walnut bowl on his Nichols lathe. I think we think he needs a nickname, how about "Go Big."

There has been a good response by folks develop a new club logo. I suggest that we do voting as they used to do on "Queen for a Day." (If you remember that show, you are at least as old as me.)

That is all I can think of for now. Keep turning, stay safe, and remember the latex gloves.

Be Well, *Joe*

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Minutes February 2nd, 2017 Meeting

Mike Smith, Secretary

President: Joe McGill

Treasurer: Beginning balance \$6,936.84, ending balance \$6,551.09

Learn N Turn: Pens

Int. VP

Attendance: 45 members +/- 6 guests

President Joe McGill was unable to attend this month's meeting.

VP Steve Reznek opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Treasurer report read and accepted.

Learn and turn had a large group participate. Many folks wanted to make a pen.

Steve explained the update to the by-laws and that they should be ready for the club to vote on, possibly March.

Mike Smith thanked all the members that put effort into the wood show back in January.

“Show’n tell”



From Trees to Turning Blanks, by "Wood Magazine" Staff

Preparing the log

What woodturner can drive by a downed tree without thinking, "Hmmm, turning stock!" In this article, you'll learn how to cut up and preserve such finds for bowl blanks.

While experienced turners use features such as knots and eccentric growth rings of branches to great advantage, those features can cause blanks and finished turnings to crack or warp excessively. So when selecting wood for turning blanks, avoid limb wood and look instead for trunk logs with minimal knots.

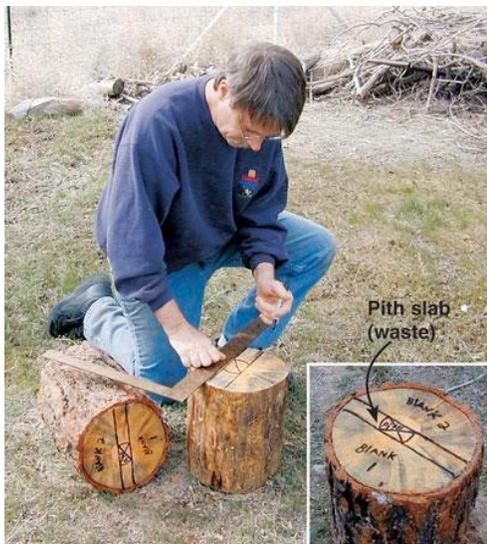
Because the ends of a log start to dry immediately after cutting, seal them right away to avoid checking. Use a commercial green-wood sealer. These sealers clean up with water, dry clear, and are superior to paraffin, which can flake off, and paint, which may require several coats for a good seal.

If there is checking on an old unsealed end, make a fresh crosscut to expose an unchecked surface; seal it immediately. Leave the logs in long yet manageable lengths until you are ready to cut them into turning blanks. This limits potential checking (and waste) to just the two ends of the log rather than both ends of multiple blank-length sections.

Leave tight bark in place. Bark slows moisture loss, helps prevent checking, and leaves the option of using the stock for a natural-edge vessel.

When ready to cut blanks, saw the log into sections about 4" longer than its diameter. This way, if you find any checking after sealing and storing the blank, you'll have ample stock to trim from both ends, exposing check-free surfaces.

When chain sawing a log section lengthwise to form bowl blanks, lay the log on its side, and support it to prevent rolling. Cut along the grain, as shown *above*. Do not stand the section on its end and cut across the end grain. Doing that takes longer and can overheat and dull the chain.



Removing the pith

At the center of a log is the original tree stem, called the pith, surrounded by a zone of very unstable wood. You'll usually be able to recognize this unstable zone by a change in wood-grain color. The size of this zone varies more with wood species than log diameter. Because this unstable wood may cause uneven drying and splitting, remove it.

Working with the end grain

Not all log sections must be sliced lengthwise to make bowl blanks. You can leave some log sections whole for turning end-grain bowls, which allows you to get the largest possible bowl from a given diameter log. Be warned: End grain is more difficult to turn than face grain, and end-grain bowls have a greater tendency to crack than face-grain bowls.

Recently I took a trip to “the Woodery” in Lunenburg.

I went with a friend so he could get some quarter sawn white oak for a project. On the way I had one of those lightbulb moments. I had been trying to come up with wood for the wood raffle that would be of interest for the segmented and pen turning folks. Maybe just maybe they would be willing to donate some of their cutoffs to the club in exchange for some advertisement in the newsletter.

After my friend finished up his business I asked about the possibility of getting some wood just some short cutoffs and was told that it might be possible but I had to speak with the owner who was not there that day. A few days later I received a call from the owner, Steve Turner. After some discussion he finally asked “how much wood do you want” to which I replied “as much as you want to give us.” He ended up donating two pickup trucks full of various species of wood. I can’t thank big Steve and little

Steve enough for their generosity and their help with this project. We will be having both dimensional lumber as well as logs for the wood raffle for quite some time. And hopefully in the future we can do it all over again. Thanks again to the folks at the Woodery Lumber Co.

Mike Smith



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You'll find almost **50 species** of domestic and imported woods, rough or milled, for the most demanding projects. From Ash to Zebrawood, we've got the lumber for cabinet makers and hobbyists alike.

Sharpening Guidelines

Alan Lacer

EQUIPMENT:

- Wheel grinder (I prefer a 1725 or 1800 rpm) set just below chest height, with 6, 7 or 8 inch diameter wheels at least 1 inch wide, 60 and 36 grit friable aluminum oxide wheels (usually white, pink, or blue) in J or K hardness
- rock solid tool rests
- eye protection and dust mask
- wheel dresser (star-wheel, dressing stick, or diamond dresser-all work, but leave different surfaces, my choice is the diamond)
- medium India slip stone or diamond slip stone
flat stone in fine (these are optional, with my preference being diamond hones).

I. Guidelines for sharpening "cutting" type tools such as gouges, skew chisels, parting tools and hook tools:

Objective:

- Single facet with a slight hollow grind
- Mental Objective:
- Grind the bevel and not the edge

Strategy:

1. Profile or shape the tool first-don't be too timid in removing large amounts of material to reach desired shape-check a book, video, or a turner for recommended shapes/angles.
2. Next, begin to match the desired bevel angle to the profile (to actually sharpen the profile). Start at the heel (back edge) of the bevel and gradually lap forward towards the edge.
3. Use light pressure, be slow and deliberate, and maintain a relaxed attitude and grip, elbows in, controlled stance.
4. Leave the tool on the wheel, looking at your progress only occasionally-use the spark trail as feedback to determine where you are grinding. Stop grinding when sparks just come over the top of the tool edge-further grinding burns away the edge, producing a "saw-toothed" edge. When full bevel is in contact with wheel, tool is sharpened.
5. Avoid heating the tool to such a temperature that you see temper colors developing (yellows, purples, blues). When grinding carbon steel tools, quench in water quite regularly. If using high-speed tools avoid quenching when tool becomes hot-grind in stages, allowing the tool to air cool between sessions.

Save the Date



Woodworkers Guild

The woodworkers of Lexington Arts and Crafts will hold their annual exhibition from February 25th through March 12th. A great show that includes furniture, carvings, as well as turnings. Reception Sunday, Feb. 26th, with key note speaker Dale Broholm a furniture design & instructor at RISD. Refreshments will be served. Show hours: Tues- Fri & Sunday 12:00pm to 4:00pm. Saturday 10:00am to 4:00pm. 130 Waltham St., Lexington. Steve R

Sharpness Indicators:

If you can see the edge on cutting tools (skews, gouges, parting tools, etc.), there is no edge! The amount of effort or pressure it takes to remove material is a great indicator of sharpness—a sharp tool seems to allow the wood to cut itself, a dull tool requires extra force. Look at the material coming off the tool—dull tools tend to produce dust or short chips, sharp tools tend to produce ribbons and curls even if short. Listen for sharpness: sharp tools make a hissing sound (much like a sharp plane); dull tools sound flat or make a scraping sound.

Honing Guidelines for skews, gouges, parting tools:

It is easier to keep a sharp tool sharp than it is to use a tool so long that you must return to the grinder. Get in the habit of regular honing, especially before final cuts. For gouges hone the outside ground bevel first by touching the heel of the bevel first, then gently rock into the area just below the edge, still touching the heel of bevel—always a two-point contact. Next, hone the inside flute: hold the curved edge of the slip stone perfectly flat within the flute and move the stone in and out of the flute until the entire edge has been honed. Hone both ground surfaces of the skew and parting tool in a similar two-point strategy. You can only hone a properly ground tool—grinding is still more critical than honing. **Rule:** Hone the bevel and not the edge!!

II. Guidelines for sharpening scraping type tools (flat steel, ground on one bevel only, similar to the cabinetmaker's scraper in its edge—a burr):

1. As with tools above, shape or profile the tool first. Scrapers are the most readily shaped tools—ground into whatever shape is needed.
2. Aim for a bevel angle between 70 and 50 degrees.
3. Although normally the bevel is not rubbed on the wood—and we do not hone these tools like cutting tools—I still aim for a single faceted tool.
4. Start at heel of bevel and lap or grind forward until sparks just begin to appear over the top of the tool.
5. The burr that is raised from grinding or raising with a burnisher IS the cutting edge at least 90% of the time. On some woods where the burr is too aggressive, we remove the burr and scrape with a sharp edge.

Leave the heavy burr from grinding if the intention is to remove considerable material and quickly. If you are using the scraper as a finishing tool, remove the burr with a flat honing tool (face of the slip stone or your flat Japanese or diamond stones). Next raise or pull up a more delicate burr with a burnisher—anything harder than the steel. I use the flat face of the slip stone or a cabinetmaker's burnisher to raise the burr. This is accomplished by tilting the burnisher just a few degrees past 90 to fold the steel back—and traveling along the full length of the edge. The burr size is also determined by the amount of pressure you apply to raise the burr—more pressure, the heavier the burr. You can successfully raise a burr 2 to 4 times before the edge is too rounded and you must then return to the grinder.

Sharpness Indicators For Scrapers:

Feel for the burr by running your finger off the edge, not along the edge. When working with a sharp scraper it should also produce small ribbons—if saw dust, then the tool is usually dull.

Save the Date

Saturday, April 1st and 2nd, 2017

REGIONAL SYMPOSIUM: TOTALLY TURNING 2017 - SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY

Location: Saratoga Springs, New York **Time:** 9:00 AM

Central New England Woodturners

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners



Officers for 2016

- President:** Joe McGill , Sudbury, MA 978-443-5322, joemcgill96@gmail.com
- External VP:** Rick Angus, Moosup, CT 860-564-3660, rick.angus@gmail.com
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- Learn 'N Turn Coord:** Richard Hunt, Auburn MA 508-832-4425, rhrghunt@gmail.com
- Videographer:** Bob Pacini, Holliston, MA 508-429-7759, rpcpo78@msn.com
- Club Store Manager:** Kevin Nee, W. Boylston MA 508-835-4301, kpni@charter.net
- Big Name Demo Coord:** Rick Angus, Moosup, CT 860-564-3660, rick.angus@gmail.com
- Club Project Coord:** Steve Reznik, Concord MA 978-287-4821, stevenreznik@gmail.com
- Membership:** Ralph Viscomi, Boylston, MA. 617-513-1680, rviscomi1@verizon.net
- Webmaster:** Dominic Ryan, Littleton, Ma. 617-347-1383, m.dominic.ryan@gmail.com



Membership

To join or renew membership, please complete the form below and a check made payable to CNEW and bring it to a CNEW meeting, or pay online at the CNEW website under "join/renew" or mail to: Treasurer, Central New England Woodturners
c/o Todd Heino, 148 Howe St, Natick, MA 01760

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 Todd Heino
148 Howe Street
Natick, MA 01760

Annual dues: \$40 including e-mail delivery of newsletter

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ & Zip: _____

e-Mail: _____

Telephone number _____

Please check appropriately below

New Member

Returning Member

e-Mail Newsletter (\$40.00)

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? _____