



Monthly Newsletter June 9, 2009

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June Meeting

President Phil welcomed everyone, including guests Eric Crane, Jon Compton and Steve Schulze. Phil reminded us of his open house format, where there will be short demos, problem solving, and show-n-tell sessions each time, and all are welcome to contribute. Don't forget, no regular meetings scheduled for July or August. The summer picnic will be hosted by Treasurer John Coles on August 15 (see Upcoming Events for details.)

There is a possibility of a day long demo by Mark St. Leger on September 15. Phil will contact club members with details as they emerge. Jim Hobson has some nice cherry available at his Upper Darby home, first come first served. Contact Jim at jph612amog@rcn.com or phone 610-734-1996 for details.

Although the camera was mounted and working for this meeting, its placement needs to be modified to provide a better image of the work. We should have this corrected by the next meeting.

Ray Klosek was the lucky 50/50 winner this month, collecting \$48 (a new high, I believe!). Way to go Ray!

Upcoming Events

June 16 - open house at Phil Hauser's

August 15 – summer picnic, 3:30 pm at John Coles home, 53 E. Oak Ave., Moorestown, NJ 08057.

September 8 – next regular club meeting.
Prize for best HOW piece, and an extended Show and Tell session.

September 15 – possible evening demo by Mark St. Leger. This would be in addition to regular club meeting. More details to follow asap.

October 24 and/or 25 – Kurt Hertzog demos on sharpening, mounting and design. 9-4:30 at Phil's house. Cost is \$35 including lunch. More details to follow.

Nov 13 – Dec 12, 2009 – Members show at Perkins Art Center in Collingswood.

Featured Program –

The featured program for June was a very informative workshop presented by Mike Kuterbach, current President of Keystone Turners, and past member of Bucks and Lehigh clubs. Mike has been turning since 2002, primarily as a hobby. He formerly made furniture, bought a lathe to turn the legs for a table, and hasn't made furniture since! He credits Dave Sousa as his mentor.



Mike's focus was on making an end grain box, and he not only demonstrated it but also provided a detailed handout explaining all the steps involved, and I've included that information at the end of this issue.

Mike's best joke of the evening was his line regarding the sanding process - "I start sanding at 240, then I'm done by 4 PM!" He cited sandpaper suppliers as www.industrialabrasives.com for the best price, Lee Valley for better quality. The pen he used to color the textured sections of his box was a Stadler Morris graphic 3000 watercolor.



Many thanks to Mike for an informative and entertaining session! And congrats to Nelson Brown, who won the raffle for the box that Mike made during the demo.

Show and Tell Session –

We had a lively session featuring a spectacular variety of work by a good number of our members.



Pictured above is work by Phil Hauser (English walnut tubes); Ray Klosek (painted Holly vase); Robert Jay (Norway maple hollow form, made with his new Jamison tool); Steve Leichner (elm natural edge bowl); Anthony Christaldi (mulberry with bark left on);



Andy DiPietro (bleached maple, Siberian elm and Chinese elm burl) and Mike Zickler (hollow forms); Rich DeCandia (natural edge crabapple);



and finally interesting soup ladles made by Charles Sarnelli based on a Mike Hosaluk demo.

Don't forget, we'll see you at the club picnic on August 15 !!

Making an Endgrain Box

By Mike Kuterbach

An endgrain box is a box with the grain running parallel with the axis of the lathe. The wood needs to be dry and stable. I let the wood season for 3 years before using it to make a box

The tools I use are: 1/2" spindle gouge with a fingernail grind:
Round nose scraper: Square nose scraper:
3/16" parting tool: Thin blade parting tool:
Skew chisel: 1/4" detail gouge

1. Start with a piece of wood approximately 3" in diameter and 5" long. Mount the wood between centers and turn a cylinder. Turn a tenon on the end that will be the lid.
2. Mount the tenon in the chuck. True up the cylinder and turn a tenon on the other end.
3. Decide where the joint between the lid and the base will be. 1/3 lid to 2/3 base is a good starting point. Make a parting cut with the 3/16" parting tool to define the tenon on the base that will fit into the recess on the lid. How deep depends on the design of the box. I cut about 1/4" deep for this style box.
4. Use the thin blade parting tool to separate the base from the lid. Cut close to the lid but leave a ridge from the tenon on the lid. This shows how large the recess in the lid can be.
5. Cut a groove about 1/8" deep with the thin blade parting tool in the end of the lid. Cut just inside the ridge left in the previous step. This acts as a stop when hollowing out the lid.
6. Hollow out the lid. Use the spindle gouge and start in the center. With the flute facing up push the gouge in about 1/8". Rotate the gouge towards you and using the tool rest as a pivot point, push the handle away. Repeat this cut until the lid is hollowed out. Clean up the hollowed area with the round nose scraper and sand it.

- 7 . Clean up the rim of the lid. The rim should be tapered in slightly. The taper insures a tight joint between the lid and base. Use the spindle gouge and cut from the inside out. This prevents chip out on the inside of the recess. Then use the skew chisel flat on the tool rest as a scraper to clean up the rim.
8. Re-cut the sides of the recess to about 1/4" deep. The sides of the recess need to be parallel with the axis of the box. Use the square nose scraper. Raise the tool rest so you are cutting above center. Hold the tool in line with the bed of the lathe and push straight in. Check the sides to make sure they are parallel Re-cut if necessary. Be careful to not cut the recess wider than the tenon on the base.
9. Apply finish to the inside of the lid and the rim.
10. Mark the depth of the hollow in the lid on the outside and make a parting cut about 1/4" to the left of the mark. Use this cut as a guide as you shape the lid. The right side of the groove is 1/ 4" from the inside of the lid. Rough turn the outside of the lid.
11. Cut the lid from the waste with the thin blade parting tool and set aside.
12. Mount the base in the chuck and true up the cylinder and clean up the end grain.
13. Check the size of the tenon against the recess in the lid. It should be too large to fit. Cut a 1/16" bevel on the end of the tenon and try the lid. If the lid fits onto the bevel, stop. If not, trim the tenon to the size of the bevel and cut another bevel. Continue doing this until the lid fits onto the beveled end of the tenon. If the tenon is too small cut it off and make a new one.
14. Hollow the base using the same method as the lid. Sand and finish
15. Mark the depth of the base on the outside. Make a parting cut 1/4" to the left and rough turn the base.

16. Jam fit the lid onto the base. Use the skew chisel flat on its side as a scraper to trim the tenon to size. Cut a little at a time and check often. You want the fit to be tight enough to hold the lid on while you turn the outside of the box. Also increase the length of the tenon to about 3/16" and clean up the end grain of the shoulder between the base and tenon.
17. Turn the outside of the box to its final shape. Continue the parting cut at the base so that the entire outside of the box can be turned and finished. Sand and apply finish.
18. Remove the lid and trim the tenon with the skew to get the lid to fit the way you want. Apply finish to the tenon.
19. Part the base from the waste piece.
20. Jam fit the base onto a waste block to finish the bottom. Cut a groove into the end of the waste block to accept the tenon on the base. Cut a concaved bottom on the box. Sand and apply finish.