

Presidential Mumblings October 2018



Gary Russell

Last month Ralph Mosher started our new year as our featured demonstrator showing us how to make a thin wall hollow form. Great job Ralph. Thanks to our demo chairman, David Gould, we have a great line-up so far of speakers/demonstrators for the this season. We still have a couple of gaps so if you can or are willing to do a demo, please

contact David. For a line-up of speakers and events, please see our webpage - fingerlakeswoodturners.org. This months' challenge project is to make a hollow form of your choosing. Our featured demonstrator knows it's time to get ready for Christmas so this month Erv Tschanz will be showing us how to make some nice Ornaments while giving us some helpful tips as well.

Our meetings are generally held on the third Thursday of the month beginning at 6:00 pm with show and share; then at 6:30 we have a short business meeting followed by the featured demonstrator. There are drawings for those who brought in show and share and challenge projects. We quite often have silent auctions. A fifty/fifty raffle is conducted at the meeting. Once again we will be making tops for the kids in the hospital as well as other children's centers (for each ten tops donated you may put your name in for a monthly drawing which will carry over to the next month if you don't win). Please be sure to come and have some fun; and who knows, you may just learn something new.

Our next National Turner will be John Jordan on November 15 thru 18. John will be doing a demo on Thursday at Isaac's, a talk on Friday at RWS - St. John Fisher (all FLWT members are welcome to attend), an all day demonstration on Saturday at Isaac, and a hands on workshop for up to 10 participants on Sunday Nov 18 again at Isaac's.

Be sure to sign up on our website. Also, for out of town guests, we have several people who are willing to be an overnight host. If you would like use this opportunity or are willing to host, let one of our Board members know.

As this is the beginning of the new year, it is time to renew your dues. The dues are \$20 for the year for a single membership, \$30 for a couple, and students are always free. This is our main source of revenue so please don't delay.

The Board of Directors are going to work on a number of improvements this year, including; obtaining enhanced insurance, updating the by-laws, establishing scholarships/rules for special events, enhancing our website, improving and developing a year round newsletter, and more. As you can see, there is a lot on our plate.

(continued on next page)

Editor's note: Apologies for the lapse in timely publishing of the newsletter. We will try to keep up with the energetic contributions of the club members and guests in future.

FLWT meetings are held from 6:30 to 9:00 PM (pre-meeting Show and Share starts at 6:00 PM) on the 3rd Thursday of the month each month. Our meetings are held at the Isaac Heating and Air Conditioning University classroom, 50 Holleder Parkway, Rochester, NY 14615. For more information, go to <http://fingerlakeswoodturners.com/>.

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President's Mumblings

(Continued)

We especially need help in establishing a marketing person/team and having a couple of newsletter reporters. We can not continue to rely on one or two people to do all the work. It is not fair to them, and it is not good for the Club. Please consider helping the Club.

We have had some problems with getting out the Newsletter which we are trying to correct. First we have established that the first day of the month will be the deadline for articles and sales listings to be received by the editors (Dave Banister and Bruce Impey). **Submissions will no longer be sent to the Editors directly. All submissions now need to go to - newsletter@fingerlakeswoodturners.com.** Hopefully this will insure submissions are received and more than one person can check it. If you have an interesting article, idea, notice of events or shows, joke or thought that you think would be of interest to the Club, please submit it.

We are setting up a committee to review and amend our By-laws. Cliff Weatherell and David Banister will be co-chairs. If you have experience or would like to be involved more with the Club, we could use your help here also. Cliff and David will be actively looking for a couple of people for this sub-committee.

Elections-Elections-Elections. It's that time again. We will be voting on the VP and Treasurer positions in November. If anyone is interested in running, they should let a Board member know so we can get your name on the ballot.

As I will be in Hawaii for most of the month of October, I will miss this month's General Meeting and Board Meeting, David Gould will be leading the charge for us – thanks David. Between now and November, any concerns or questions please contact any Board member.

See you in November and in the meantime – keep on turning.

Library Update

By Denis Caysinger

We hope everyone had a great summer! Your Librarians have been busy bringing items to meetings over the summer that were requested. Starting in September we'll be back to normal operations where all of the DVD's, tools, and a selection of books will be available for loan at the meetings.

We recently added some new materials to the FLWT library for loan.

- Apprentice Collet Chuck set. This will work on lathes with either a 1 X 8 or 1 ¼ X 8 spindle size.
- We replaced some missing items:
- DVD from Tim Yoder – *Get Turning!*
- DVD from Michael Hosaluk – *The Art of Woodturning*
- Book from Dale Nish – *Woodturning Christmas Ornaments*

When checking out items from the library please be sure that a Librarian marks the item down on our tracking sheet. And don't hesitate to offer suggestions to Gary or Denis regarding library operations, or new items you would like to see in the library.

Don't forget, there are many books in the library that we cannot bring to meetings. Please contact either Gary or Denis to have these books brought to the meeting. The listing is on the website under resources.

And lastly, as with anything that members borrow from the library, if you lose it or break it, you're responsible for buying another one for the club.

Gary & Denis

That Balanced Log with Al Stirt

by Bruce Impey



At the May meeting of the FLWT Al Stirt gave us a presentation on bowl turning emphasizing balancing the grain. Al likes to turn utilitarian pieces of woods local to him in Vermont. He turns with the grain balanced, especially in the center of the bowl. It makes the grain pattern pop.

Early on people thought he had a mystical connection with the wood. It's purely mechanical. He said that there is a plan for the bowl driver jig he uses to balance the grain on his website alstirt.com. It is worth looking at the images on his web

page. The bowl driver design is here www.alstirt.com/NewBowlDriver1.

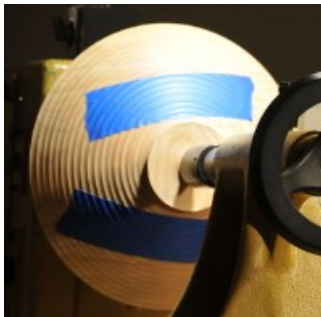
In his demonstration he made it look pretty simple in concept anyway. With an oversized hole for the drive center screw bring up the tailstock. You find a ring that is on both sides and tilt the tailstock connection in or out to make that in the axis of rotation. If you can use the line between sapwood and heartwood



it is "easy". After roughing, count the rings out both ways from the smallest continuous ring. Draw or cut a line below where the grain circles around. Al takes the center point out of the tailstock center. He advises that profile jaws are more forgiving on the spigot diameter than dovetail jaws.

When roughing take care to soften the sharp edge on the outside of the rim. AL tapers the thickness from about 1" at the rim to $\frac{3}{4}$ " at the bottom. He thinks it dries better and has less chance of cracking. He does the same in the finish turning. He likes the feel of it. The bowl should still be light. It should ring. Al coats his green turned bowls with watered down Anchorseal and leaves them in an unheated space. When they get to 12% moisture he moves them near the woodstove. At 8 to 6% they are ready for finish turning. He uses a shear scraper for final cuts but doesn't like the burr that his 180 grit CBN wheel leaves. He removes that with a diamond hone and then gives two swipes to set up a burr. The angle, he says, is a compromise between quality of cut and ability to contour.

Al used a vacuum chuck to finish turn the bottom of the bowl in the demonstration. It was interesting that he needed to put masking tape on the sides of the bowl to get it to cling to the chuck. It was air leaking through the pores of the wood that was exceeding the volume capacity of the vacuum pump.



Bracelets Demo by Bruce Impey

By Jim Echter

Bruce started the evening at the May meeting talking about how he got started with making bracelets. It turned out his daughter saw a wooden bracelet at a store for \$30. She decided not to purchase it because "Dad can make it for free." So as any good daddy would do, Bruce went to his shop, found a piece of walnut and made his daughter a bracelet. His journey of making bracelets had now begun. Having a "floating workshop" on his boat, Bruce likes making bracelets as they require minimalist tools and just a mini lathe.

Bruce's bracelets start out as segmented picture frames. He makes them using a table saw and a bandsaw sled. He uses a Lenox WoodMaster $\frac{3}{4}$ " (3tpi/4tpi) blade on the bandsaw. First he cuts sixteen $\frac{3}{4}$ " wedges of contrasting woods. He glues them up – 1+1, then 2+2, then 4+4 which gives two semi circles $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick. He then face sands (on a hard sanding disk) the semi circles to remove any joint error and glues the two together to form the 16 segmented ring of contrasting woods. He shoots for a ring that will allow him to turn the bracelet to final size. He likes 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " ID for standard size and 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " for large bracelets.

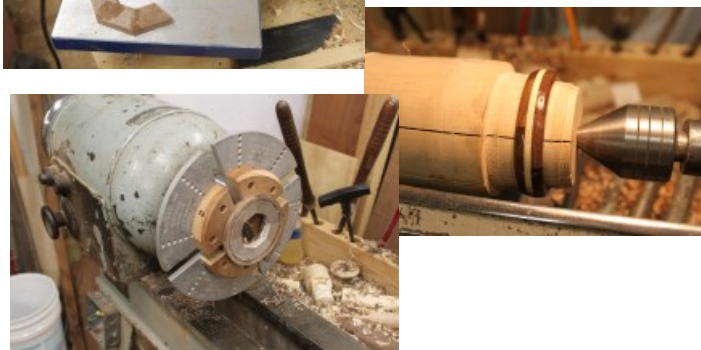
For decoration, using the bandsaw with the WoodMaster blade, he can cut very thin rings that can be stacked and rotated to provide exquisite center rings on a high end bracelet. Bruce takes a glued up thick ring and glues it on edge to a piece of 2x4. This give him a nice flat base and prevents the ring from rotating when sawing the thin slices. He can then slice off disks as thin as $\frac{1}{16}$ ". He uses a mounting jig made from a pieces of 2x4 with a bolt to stack and glue the segments.

Bruce made wooden plates for his Nova Cole jaws to hold the bracelet blanks. This way he can turn the bracelet ID to the desired dimension. His steps for turning and finishing the ID are:

- Face the ring
- Glue on the next layer
- Turn the OD
- Mount in the Cole Jaw chuck
- Face side one
- Turn ID
- Flip the bracelet
- Face side two
- Turn ID
- Sand and finish –first apply a sanding sealer cut 50/50 with alcohol then apply 50/50 Mineral oil and Shellac final finish.

To turn the outside, Bruce uses a tapered mandrel. He turns the final profile, sands to 6-800 grit sandpaper, then applies the final finish. He uses a French polish process for a high sheen. This involves adding 1 drop of mineral oil and a "squirt" of shellac to the finishing pad. Apply to the bracelet and burn in to bring out the shine.

Thanks Bruce for a great demo. We all appreciate the time and effort you put into pulling this presentation together.



Pictures from Bruce's website woodturningmariner.com

Box Making with Jim Echter

By Denis Caysinger

On Thursday evening August 16 Jim Echter did a presentation and demo on box making.

Jim first presented a short slideshow describing types of boxes, a bit about box design, box turning fundamentals, and design process for boxes. It's also worth noting that boxes are great projects for mini lathes. Then he turned three different styles of boxes.

Jim promised some tips while he was turning, and the first one was to figure out what the TPI (threads per inch) are on your lathe tailstock screw. Why? Because if you need to drill a 1 inch deep hole, then you will know how many times to turn the handwheel to drill the hole, and you don't have to measure.

He also showed how to make a mini live center out of a taper pin that goes into a revolving live center such as the Oneway or Jet.

Jim also talked about the importance of sharpening your tools. Sharp tools are enjoyable to use, and can actually be safer.

Needle Case

Jim used a collet chuck with $\frac{3}{4}$ round wood. He trued up the wood between centers.

First Jim made the lid. A dimple was put in the end of the wood to make a centering hole for the drill. He used a machinist spotting drill bit which drills a taper that matches the angle of a standard drill bit. Drill a $\frac{3}{8}$ inch hole about $\frac{1}{2}$ in deep. Determine the size of the lid, making sure to leave some material above where the hole was drilled. Part off with a thin parting tool.

For the bottom of the case, true up the body of the case. Drill a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch hole about 2 inches deep. Determine where the bottom of the case will be. Using a parting tool cut a tenon for the lid to rest on.

Put the lid on the bottom, then bring up the tailstock using a safety center. True up the lid / bottom combo. Jim put 2 burn lines on the bottom for decoration. Shape the top, sand starting at 180 and go to 400. Jim used Mylands finish. Part bottom off.

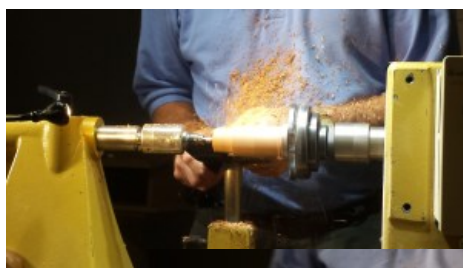
Turn a tenon on the waste wood to mount the bottom of the case so you can finish off the bottom. Jim cut a couple of lines in the bottom. Then sand and finish the bottom.

Pommel Cutting Tip

Jim did a quick demo on how to cut a pommel. Use a square blank of wood, and mark the centers perfectly. Otherwise your pommel will look off balance. Cutting a Vee cut with the side towards the square section perpendicular, sneak up to the square section until the point of the skew cuts completely



Picture from Jim's website <http://www.truecreations.biz>



around the blank. Then turn the round section using a spindle roughing gouge and skew. You now have a round section and a square section. To round the square pommel, it is just a straight Vee cut. Magically, the round pommel will be cut. For an ogee pommel, use a spindle gouge.

Inset Box

Mount wood blank between centers using tailstock for support. Round and true up blank. For this box the lid will sit down in the base of the box.

For the lid, mark where bottom of lid will be on the blank. Create a tenon using a parting tool on the lid where it will sit in the bottom. Shape the lid. Drill a 1/4 inch hole about 1/4 inch deep in the top for use later. Sand, finish, then part off the lid.

Another tip - Jim left a feather of wood on the bottom when parting off the top, so he would know how far to cut the hole for the recess. This eliminates measuring.

For the bottom, start hollowing out with a spindle gouge. Cut a recess in the bottom where the lid will be inserted. Keep the lid fit tight for now. Finish the hollowing with a spindle gouge.

Now put the lid on the bottom. Bring up the tailstock with a cone center, and shape the lid & bottom together. Decide on whether you want to hide or accentuate the seam where the lid sits on the bottom. Mark the bottom with a parting cut.

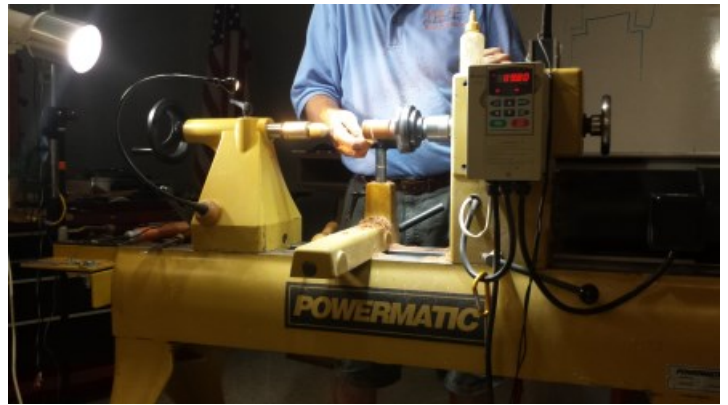
At this point size the recess or tenon on the lid for the desired fit. Jim sanded, then finished the outside with Mylands and Renaissance wax, and the inside with the wax / oil combo. Part off the bottom. Using waste wood make a jam chuck, mount the bottom, then finish the bottom of the box.

Finally, glue a Betel nut to a 1/4 inch long dowel, about 1/2 inch long. Mount in a collet chuck, shape and finish the nut. Then glue the dowel / nut into the top of the box to add a nice decoration.

Lidded Box

Mount wood between centers. Round and turn tenons on both ends. Mark the height of the lid on the end towards the headstock. Mark the bottom section on the other end, leaving enough material so a jam chuck can be made later. Part the tenon diameter for the lid and bottom joint. Part the lid from the bottom, leaving a whisker of wood on the bottom. Mount the lid in the chuck, hollow and rough shape the lid. Mount the box bottom in the chuck, hollow and sand. Put the lid onto the bottom, use a safe center to hold it on. Turn the outside and then the top of the box. Sand and finish. Part off. Make a jam chuck with the left over wood, mount the box bottom. Turn slightly concave, sand and finish. Your box is now complete.

Thank you to Jim for the great demo of how to turn boxes. It's folks like Jim who really enhance the experience of belonging to FLWT.



Show and Share by club members from the next meeting.

Turning a Hollow Form with Ralph Moser

9/20/2018

Excerpts from his slide show

Tools

From log to Hollow Form
Preparing the blank and mounting on the lathe
Turning the outside profile
Hollowing Procedure
Drilling
Removing Material
Wall thickness
Post Hollowing
Holding the Hollow Form to Turn the Base
Finishing the foot

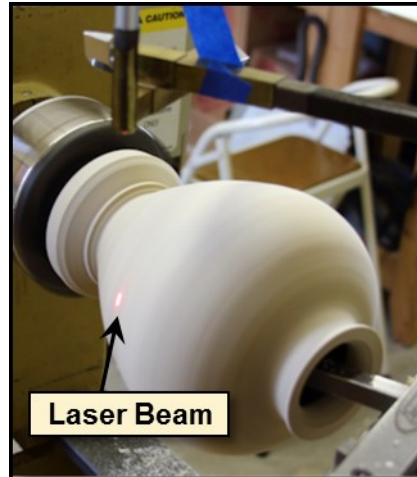


Figure A



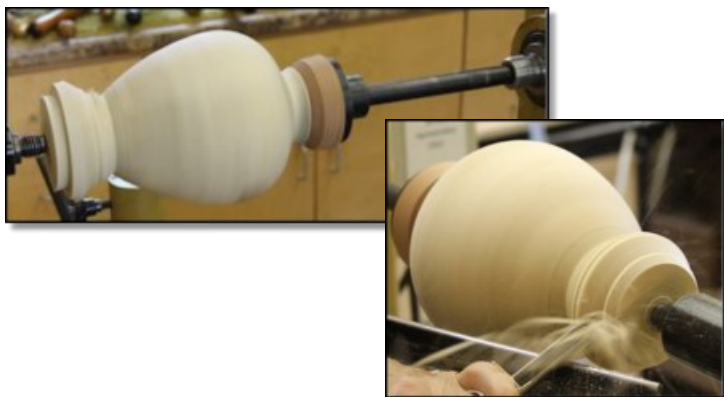
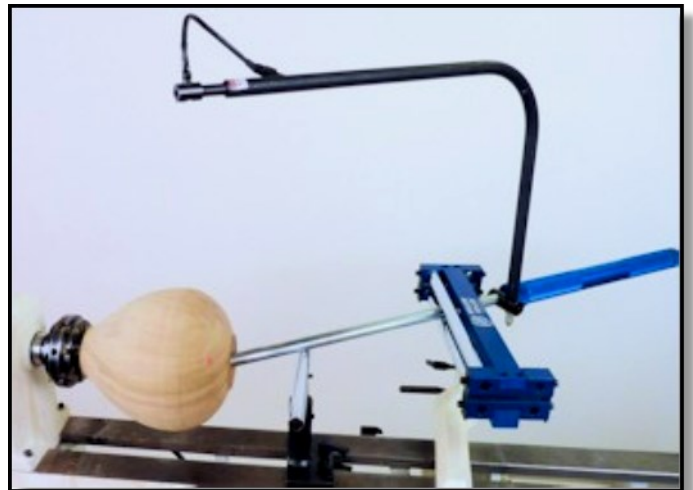
Figure B



Figure C



Figure D



See the entire slideshow here: [RalphMosher-Hollow-Form-Presentation.pdf](#)

Wow Ralph!

Next month John Jordan will be demonstrating. Sign ups on our website. Pictures of his work here are from his AAW gallery.



Photo from carolinamountainwoodturners.org



2018-19 SCHEDULE AND MENTOR CONTACTS

October 18	Erv Tschanz—Ornaments
Nov 15	National Turner—John Jordan -
December 20	Holiday Celebration and Round Robin Turning
January 17	National Turner—Michael Hosaluk

Mentor Contacts

Name	Phone	Email	Turning Skills / Specialty
Mike Brawley	755-2714	mbrawley@rochester.rr.com	Design Principles, Spindles; Bowls and Platters; Sharpening
Ward Donahue	334-3178	wddonah@frontiernet.net	Spindles; Hollowing; Coring; Sharpening
Jim Echter	377-9389	jechter@rochester.rr.com	Spindles; Sharpening; Faceplate turning
Jim Hotaling	223-4877	jhotal2198@aol.com	Christmas Ornaments
Terry Lund	455-2517	terry.lund@gmail.com	General Turning; Dust Collection
Ralph Mosher	359-0986	2mosher@rochester.rr.com	Bowls; Faceplate Turning, Sharpening
Erwin A. Tschanz	271-5263	TschanzLandscape@aol.com	Historical; Bowls; Plates; Goblets; Boxes; Bone; Antler
David Gould	245-1212	d2sGould@aol.com	Bowls; Plates; Hollow-Forms
Gary Russell	353-3148	cngRussell@gmail.com	General turning, bowls, ornaments, finials

1. Here's a great way for you to improve your turning skills. FLWT has award winning and expert turners who, at no cost, are willing to share their expertise one-to-one with other club members. A mentoring relationship might be as simple as getting a mentor's advice in a one time conversation. Or, it

might include regular hands-on sessions over a lathe. The exact nature is up to you and your mentor. If you feel you could benefit from mentoring, organize your thoughts about your needs and contact an appropriate volunteer mentor above to determine if he or she is a match and available. ♦

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