



# Shavings



Hill Country Turners  
Monthly Newsletter

*AS THE HILL COUNTRY TURNS*

Volume # 12

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**July 12, 2007**

## **MEETING PLACE**

**Hill Country Turners** meet ~~in the basement~~ of the KACC (Kerr Arts & Cultural Center) at 228 Earl Garrett, Kerrville, Texas at 6:30 pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month, **unless otherwise notified.**

**OK, you are hereby notified that the meeting will be upstairs at the Arts Center for the month of August and we will enter by going into the entrance at the loading dock.**

## **HANDS ON TURNING**

(Learn new techniques and methods before the meeting starts)

**We will not be conducting the 4:00 demonstration this month.**

## **Notes from the Last Meeting**

James Johnson did the demonstration. James showed common tools he made for turning projects, tools that were fashioned from other tools (like screwdrivers), and ways to use common tools (like scrapers) in uncommon ways (like shearing the wood for a fine finish).

He then went to sanding. Using a new project to show his need for a narrow sanding tool, he demonstrated a modification of his well known sanding discs to the scale of a Dremel tool. He finally showed the making and use of his sanding discs.

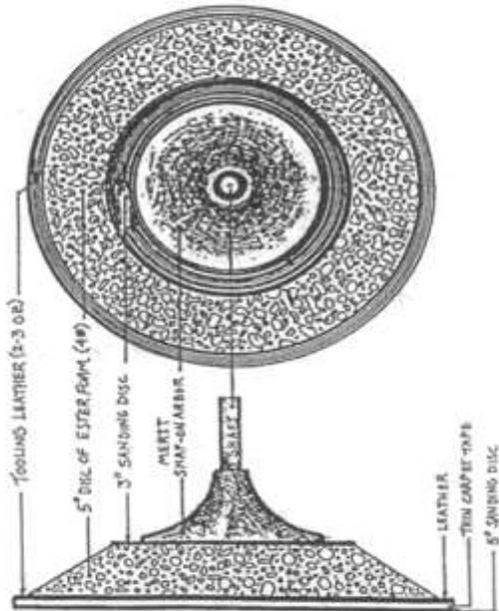
A couple of years ago James gave a talk at SWAT on “Bread and Butter Turning”. He passed out a handout that, among other things, gave the details on making soft turning pads. Here is the text.

## Shop Built Sanding Pads

When I first started turning in the early 80's, I would spend as much time sanding as I would turning. I started sanding with a 7" body grinder and 36 grit sandpaper. In the intervening years I have gotten much better at turning, so that now I can start with 120 grit, occasionally 220 grit, But the greatest change has been brought about by the sanding pads I developed. These pads are made from 1" thick ester (type of) foam. The density of the foam is 4 lbs/cu-ft. Some 2-3 oz. leather and 'Snap-on' brand mandrels/sanding discs. Solvent (lacquer type) based contact is used for all gluing.

First cut a rough disc of foam about 5" in diameter, apply 2 coats of cement to both the foam and the sanding discs; then press together. Snap the assembly onto the mandrel and true up the outer edge of the foam by 'sanding' on a piece of coarse sandpaper fastened to your bench top. This will create clouds of rubber dust, but will true up the foam. The edge should be at about a 45-degree angle. The leather pad is cut round and 3/4" to 1" larger in diameter than the foam. Again, 2 coats of cement are applied and the leather carefully centered on the foam. This completes the sanding pad.

SOFT SANDING DISC



I use thin cheap double-sided carpet tape applied all across the leather to hold the sandpaper. Do not try to trim the carpet tape to the edge of the leather- instead, just whack it off and fold the excess over onto the pad. The tape is so thin it will not affect the sanding at all. Then plopp the pad down onto the backside of your sandpaper. I use 'A' weight, open coat, sterate coated alum. oxide sandpaper. Then trim the paper flush with the edge of the leather with a utility knife.

I generally use 120, 220, and 320 grit paper The surface from 320 grit is comparable to 600 grit paper hand-applied to the wood. Then I power buff with a 6" muslin buffing wheel charged with either white diamond for lighter colored woods, or red rouge for darken A final buffing with a clean buffing wheel prepares the surface for a finish.

The pads work so well because the cut edge of the sandpaper is not held in contact with the surface of the wood. Rather, it 'floats' over the surface. The edge of the paper (and any folds or tears) is what causes the semi-circular scratches, but the floating action eliminates these scratches. Also, the softness of the foam and the tapered edge allows the pads to conform to concave surfaces without gouging.

Sanding is done on the lathe but with the lathe off. The reason is to eliminate over-sanding Imagine that you are power sanding with the lathe on, Upon examination of the surface you find that 80% of it is Ok, but a couple of spots remain rough If you turn on the lathe, you are now sanding 100% of the surface just to take care of 20% of it. This is over-sanding, and is a waste of sandpaper, time and energy. Much better to sand until the surface in that area is done, then move on

James Johnson, 2007

Problem Solver, Mad inventor, and Artist. Thanks, James.

## BRINGBACKS

The following bring-backs are due at the July meeting.

Kathy Roberts -----	1	Liz Farris -----	1
John Jones-----	3	Chuck Felton -----	2
Uel Clanton -----	3	Bob Gayer -----	2

## “TURNED EVENTS”

**Reminders:** Don't forget the Club Challenge will be in August

**Still For Sale:** Jet 1236 lathe. Excellent condition. Asking \$275. Contact Joe Ripkin 830-336-4836

## NEXT “GRUBBS”

(Sustenance providers for starving artists)

Month	(DRINKS)	(YUMMIES)
Jan.	Johnny Jones	Larry Werth
Feb.	Jerre Williams	Dale Gleichweit
Mar.	Keith Longnecker	Roger Arnold
Apr.	Jim Pryer	Jim Hill
May	Joe Ripkin	Holton & Holton
June	Andy Chen	Anna Rachinsky
July	Larry Walton	Don Kaiser
<b>Aug.</b>	<b>Chuck Felton</b>	<b>Jerry Bennett</b>
Sept.	Uel Clanton	Dale Lemons
Oct.	Joe Johnson	Maurice Collins
Nov.	Sandy Dena	Raul Pena
Dec.	Christmas Party	

## DEMONSTRATOR OF THE MONTH

Here it is. The Club Challenge. Those who have drawn their wood stick will show what they have made of it. HCT expects every man (who has drawn his wood) to do his duty...or pay the price.

**“THE BIG CHIPS” of KTC**  
***Hill country turners is a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners dedicated to providing education, information and a place to meet and discuss woodworking and woodturning.***

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