



Shavings



Hill Country Turners
Monthly Newsletter

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May 2, 2011

Next Meeting, May 12, 2011

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.

April Meeting

Alan Trout from the Alamo Club gave the demo this month. I heard (and thought) about what a strange and expensive way this was to finish a piece. I was, however, astonished by the thought that has gone into this method. Using bulk purchases of CA glue cuts the price considerably. In addition, the pieces he showed were of a quality to justify the finest care and quality in the finish. Sanding and polishing were, again, shown to be an essential element in a finished article. A special point in the application was the liberal use of paper towel to the finish.

Alan showed us a couple of hollow forms of amazing beauty that showed his finishing technique well, but also introduced the group to pressure formed polymer method of forming the piece. He used natural inclusions, like acorn tops or agerita wood combined with special dyes in the polymer. Some of the dyes mix to create a uniform color and some don't completely mix and form rich color swirls. He also showed us that he turns a nice wooden shape too. He passed a hand-out that I included at the end of the newsletter, so read it. Here are the pictures. Thanks Allen.



May Meeting

The May meeting will be special. In addition to the club challenge, Ken Morton will be doing a natural edge bowl demonstration. If you've been procrastinating, get busy and finish that challenge piece. Remember, there's prize money to be won for the best finish straight off of the tool.

Show-And-Tell

Show-And-Tell was crowded with goodies in April. The final form of the Club entry to AAW was shown by James (Anna Rachinsky and Joe Johnson were contributors) with a new box elder burl base. It is shown below. James also showed two "living room jewelry" constructions (one is progress). He also showed homemade versions of a tool grinding jig and a set of flap sanders. Art really flourishes with total command of tools.

Dale Lemons showed a bowl from a hunk of dried mesquite to which he added turquoise inlaid. Kathy Roberts showed a box with a veneer of bark Vern Hallmark had removed from turning blanks. L.A. Cude showed a toilet paper holder he created for his house. He is redoing his house and seems to be trying to outdo each thing he makes for it.

Garrett Morris showed some pens he made from empty bullets, and Raúl Peña showed a “sacrificial sanding finger” as an example of how to avoid problems while sanding inside a hard to reach place. Take a look!



Open Shop Saturday

Maurice Collins had the April Open Shop at his place and about 10 folks attended. I think everyone would agree that it's a fantastic place to work. He has an air conditioning system that will freeze an Eskimo and a dust collection system that will suck your shorts off. Maurice also has lots of nice equipment to fill up the space. If you haven't seen Maurice's shop, you should make arrangements to do so. Also, thanks Mary Kathryn for the great cookies



Grant Application

Last December we applied for an **Educational Opportunity Grant** from the AAW to buy a Club midi lathe, stand, and accessories. The intent was to have a Club owned portable lathe that could be taken to various venues to help spread the woodturning “gospel” and help recruit new members. We were recently informed that our grant request of \$1,105 was approved in the full amount requested. For 2011, the AAW received 160 grant requests and 74 applications were approved. A total of \$70,000 was given to local chapters, other requesting organizations and individuals.

••Don't forget SWAT is August 26, 27, 28! Registration is now open.

Refreshments for 2011

<u>Month</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Drinks</u>	<u>Sweets</u>
May	12th	Mike Shoup	Harold Dykes
June	9th	Ken Morton	Martha Palmer
July	14th	Val Shimek	Jay Shimek
August	11th	John Jones	Vern Hallmark
September	8th	Larry Werth	L. A. Cude
October	13th	Jay Shimek	Anna Rachinsky
November	10th	Jim Whisnand	Roger Arnold
December	8th	Christmas Party	Christmas Party

“THE BIG CHIPS” of HCT

Hill country turners is a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners dedicated to providing

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education, information and a place to meet and discuss woodworking and woodturning.

Key Steps for a CA Finish

CA finishes are a fast and extremely durable finish. It can be successfully applied by expert and novice wood turners using basic techniques and practice.

For any gloss finish, you need a thick enough build-up that can be sanded smooth for polishing, This is the case for CA. Thin CA (5CPS viscosity) is the best for most larger applications, as it goes on smooth enough and dries fast enough for the build needed to sand. On larger items, using medium or thick CA is not recommended as it will run and create ridges from the centrifugal force of the rotating piece. When you think you have enough build, apply a few more coats to insure you won't sand through the finish.

When sanding, I like to start with 400 grit paper. Typically, for a coarse paper I use Norton 3x. It cuts the CA well and does not load excessively. I use the 400 to knock down any small ridges. I will generally sand across the ridges by hand to flatten them.

Remember, edges are prone to burning through the finish. Avoid sanding too much with the coarser grits at any edges. I then progress to a finer paper, 800 to 1200 grit wet or dry paper in my next step, along with some sort of lubricant for wet sanding. I personally prefer the 3M Imperial Wet or Dry paper as it cuts better and gives a finer finish. It is generally sold at auto body supply companies to be used mostly for automotive finishes. As a lubricant, use water if the piece is completely sealed. If not, or if you are worried about sanding through the finish, I like to use the "Safer Paint Thinner". It is sometimes referred as "white mineral spirits" and not good for much other than a wet sanding agent. It has an oily feel, and the paper slides on the piece as it carries away the debris from the finish. It will not raise the grain of the wood if you sand through. This can be purchased at most home centers and usually comes in a plastic container with green on the label. The finest grit I sand to with the paper is 2000 in the 3M papers. This is fine enough to eliminate most of the heavy scratches and do the final buffing and polishing.

Polishing is simple. I prefer the Novus brand of plastic polish. The NO.2 polish is all that is really needed. This can be done with the item spinning or by hand and gives a glassy finish. If done on the machine, do not put too much pressure against the part, as this can melt the finish. Light pressure is all that is needed for the polishing operation. After you are done, any visible scratches can be wet-sanded with the 2000 grit paper. Or if you have a buffing system, you can buff with plastic lacquer compound on the Canton flannel wheel and re-polish with the Novus No. 2. I generally finish up with a dry flannel wheel to give it a buff and the piece is complete.

Online Supply Source List.

Glue: http://woodenwonderstx.com/ZC_WoodenWonders/

Novus: http://www.amazon.com/NOVUS-PC-20-Plastic-Scratch-Remover/dp/B002UD0GGS/ref=sr_1+8?ie=UTF8&qid=1302789129&sr=8-8

3M Paper: http://www.amazon.com/3M-Imperial-Wetordry-Sheet-Sheets/dp/B001MSY90/ref=sr_1_1?s=automotive&ie=UTF8&qid=1302789189&sr=1-1