



Shavings

Hill Country Turners
Monthly Newsletter



Volume #19

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Next Meeting April 10 2014 **MEETING PLACE**

Hill Country Turners meet in the basement of the KACC (Kerr Arts & Cultural Center) at 228 Earl Garrett, Kerrville, Texas at 6:00 pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month. The formal meeting starts at 6:30.

March Meeting

President, George Taylor called the meeting to order. Guests and new members (Tom, Steve, John, and Ken) were introduced and welcomed.

Treasurer's Report from Will Aymond

Checking Account Balance \$2,594.10
Petty Cash Balance \$200.00

Southwest Association of Turners (SWAT) Report from Jim Whisnand and Ken Morton

The 2014 Symposium will be held August 22nd – 24th. Registration has begun. Registration can be done online (www.swaturners.org/registration). Applications can be also be submitted by mail (info also on the registration webpage). Individual pre-registration is \$140. July 31st is the last day you can pre-register online (July 25th for mail in registration). After that there is only on-site registration and the price goes up to \$170 for individual registration. Other prices (for spouses, students, one day passes) are also on the registration webpage. Raul Pena and others voiced their opinions of SWAT as a great place to learn techniques and gain knowledge for a very reasonable price.

Upcoming Events

John Stegall reviewed the plans for upcoming meeting programs: **April**, Harold Dykes, Segmentation and **May**, James Hampton, Custom Inlay Techniques. National woodturner, Jamie Donaldson, has been booked for **September**. The demo is entitled "Hip to Turn Square". Additionally, there will be two one-day workshops with Jamie at Point Theater.

Roger Arnold reviewed the plans for Open Shops. Roger will host the open shop in Mountain Home **April 12th**, starting at 10:00am. A light lunch will be provided. Bring tools for the tool trade and tools to sharpen for sharpening demos. Darrel Korman will host the July Open Shop.

The 2014 AAW National Symposium will be **June 13th – 15th** in Phoenix, AZ. Since only a handful of people that will be traveling to Phoenix, our regular monthly meeting will remain on June 12th.

The 2014 SWAT Symposium will be held **August 22nd – 24th** in Waco, TX.
National Turner, Jamie Donaldson, Point Theater workshops **September 12-14**.

The Hill Country Arts Festival will be held **October 10-12** at Point Theater in Ingram. That is the same weekend as the Mesquite Art Show in Fredericksburg.

The **4th Segmenting Symposium** will be held **October 16-19** in San Antonio. Details of the symposium can be found on the Segmented Turners website (www.segmentedwoodturners.org/symposium.php).

Volunteers Needed: Volunteers are requested to help setup, tear down and clean up at the Jamie Donaldson Point Theater workshops September 12-14.

We have been invited to produce a turning video for KACC. This is a great opportunity for introducing the general public to the club and turning in general. Volunteers are needed that are willing to invest their time and talent for the video. Volunteers with video experience and resources are also needed.

Reminders

- The next Craft Supplies and Thompson Tool orders will be placed in April. Contact Will or George to place an order. Club prices are 10% off and free shipping.
- The next raffle will be in May
- Safety Tip of the month – Long hair, loose clothes and jewelry do not mix with fast turning objects!
- Saying of the month – Life is too short to turn crappy wood!

Demo Notes



Tom Canfield, Multi-axis Turned Flower Vase

Tom was inspired at Church to try multi-axis turning. The first multi-axis turning Tom did was out of mesquite and it turned out good. There are a lot of information and videos on the web, just Google “multi-axis turning”. Tom picked one identified “for low skill” to start with. Master turner, Barbara Dill, and many others have YouTube videos and instruction downloads demonstrating multi-axis turning techniques online.

Tom donned his apron and shoe covers along with his safety glasses. A face shield is a good idea with multi-axis turning – it can get real interesting turning off center!

Tom shared some of the jigs he uses. He needed a way to center a mallet head on the lathe to drill a hole in it for the handle. He used a V-shaped piece of wood like you would typically use to hold a round piece, but he needed a #2 morse taper to mount it properly in the lathe. So he made a jig to replicate the angle of the taper by gluing a block above and below the morse taper end of a live center to a flat piece of wood. Now he has a gauge to go by when creating a morse taper.

For optimum results when off-center turning, you want good flat ends. Tom showed the jig he uses with his bandsaw to square the ends of blanks. Tom starts with a 10” long cylinder. Once the ends of the blank were square, Tom used a center finder to mark the center point of his blank. Then he marked 3 additional points equally spaced apart around the diameter of the blank end one inch out from the center. *[Editor note: I don’t remember exactly how Tom calculated the distance between the off-center points. The easiest way I know to explain dividing a circle into 3 equal parts is to imagine the end of the blank is a*

clock face, write the numbers 1 through 12 on the blank as if it were a clock face. Then mark the numbers 12 o'clock, 4 o'clock and 8 o'clock. Draw lines from the center through the marks to the edge of the blank.] Use a center punch to indent the center and the three marks. Mark the other end in the same manner. If you want the off-center marks to be exactly the same on the opposite end, draw a line down the blank from where each of the lines through the marks reach the edge of the blank. If you do this carefully the other end of the blank will have three marks 120° apart. Carry the marks to the center point and use them to locate the offset points for the opposite end. Tom noted that having the points the same on both ends is more difficult. Setting the points independently for each edge is more forgiving since edges of the triangular shapes of the top portion those of the bottom will not meet. (Of course if they are fairly close it may just look like an error in judgment or technique.) Tom chose to try and make them the same. Mark the offset points 1,2 and 3 on one end and then, following the lines down the blank, mark that end with the corresponding number. You know that you got it right if, on one end, the numbers go clockwise and on the other, counter-clockwise.

Between centers, put a tenon on one end. Cut groove on tenon end to one inch diameter, approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ " from end (vase foot end). Cut groove other end to one inch diameter, approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ " from end (vase lip end). Tom used flower vase proportions guidelines: $\frac{1}{3}$ top, $\frac{2}{3}$ bottom. From lip groove mark a line $\frac{1}{3}$ down.

Move headstock end of blank to first off-center point. Leave Tailstock end on center. Remember to manually turn blank to check tool rest clearance before turning the lathe on. Note that the blank will wobble worse at higher speeds. Adjust speed to a slower speed that is comfortable for you. Take light cuts. Taper from the line to the foot-end groove. You can round the bottom a little, if you want. Switch headstock end of blank to second off-center point. Do the same shape, tapering from the line to the foot end groove. Notice a straight edge is forming. Don't worry if it isn't perfectly straight, later you can use a random orbital sander to sand a straight line. Switch headstock end of blank to third off-center point. Repeat steps, tapering from the line to the foot end groove. Each off-center point creates one side. (3 points = 3 sides). You should see 3 straight edges marking the triangles down the blank. Flip blank end-to-end, tailstock end is now headstock end.

Now, tailstock end remains on center. Repeat steps for all 3 off-center points on this end, going past the line a little to blend. This is where if your off-center points are the same on both ends, you are matching up the lines. If you offset the off-center points, they don't have to match, so it is easier. Mounting the vase blank in the lathe between centers, helps hold it while you sand the surfaces with the random orbital sander.

Mount the tenon in the chuck (vase foot end). Shape the lip for the vase top (tailstock end). Cut downhill. You can't cut uphill on this. Turn the lathe speed down. Use a spade bit to drill hole in vase. Tom used a $\frac{5}{8}$ " spade bit. Blend lip into hole (ease edge over). Remove piece from chuck.

Tom had another jig to jam chuck the vase to finish the bottom. This jig was made from a dowel (a straight one works best ☺) with a morse taper at one end. Put a piece of rubber on the end of the dowel, this will go inside the vase. This will help keep the vase from slipping. Use rubber at the neck of the vase to tighten the fit. Use tape to hold the lip of the vase to the dowel. The tape drives the piece. Bring the tailstock up to jam chuck piece. Cut excess stock off. Undercut the bottom so the vase will be sitting on 3 corners.

Tom recommends starting with a 1" square practice piece. Don't put your off-center points too far apart. He also had some other multi-axis pieces to show. The knob at the top on the female forms is to clamp onto and if you turn offset off-center, you get a spiral.

Show-and-Tell

Roger Felps brought a mesquite burl vase. After he finished the piece, he didn't care for the design. When you turn the top and bottom the same size the bottom always looks bigger. Even though he had turned his bottom slightly smaller than the top, it still appeared bigger to him. Tom Canfield showed a Pecan Saucer, (he called it a spalted worm hole) out of scrap wood that he didn't think would stay together, and a Bradford Pear bowl with no lip. He also had a Bradford Pear bowl with oval lid that was derive from using the oval shrinking of the first-turned bowl and keeping that shape as a feature. George Taylor showed a Box Elder bowl with a striking grey half. You never know what is in a blank until you turn it.



John Jones, in keeping with the spirit of the demo, showed his Bloodwood goblet with off center turned stem. Raúl Peña Brought a Nautilus and mentioned that with multi-axis turning he made an example that had an oval cross section and even one with the oval 90° from the center line. True to his nature as a scientist, Raúl wondered if a nautilus really existed in all the configurations he had made, and checking with his paleontology books and found that nature had indeed been there before him. Raúl also showed a complex multi-axis turning by Mark Sfirri.

Will Aymond created a remarkably dense top and top holder of Purple Heart, Yellow Heart and Betel Nut. Ken Morton brought a piece from his open shop that was started by Allen Trout and finished by Ken and his Jamieson hollower. He devised a sanding tool for sanding the inside with a maple $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$ piece, drilling a hole to hold the 2" sanding disk. He finished with wipe on poly from Home Depot, cured for 4 days, then buffed with Beall buffing system.



2014 Food Sign-Up Sheet

Month	Meeting Date	Drinks	Sweets
April	10th	Roger Arnold	Harold Dykes
May	8th	Debbie Walker	Pete Cowger
June	12th		Will Aymond
July	10th	Uel Clanton	Martha Palmer
August	14th		Kathy & Jim Weir
September	11th	Joe Johnson	C. Herbert
October	9th	Jim Whisnand	John Jones
November	13th	Joe Johnson	George Taylor
December	11th	Christmas Party	Christmas Party

HCT Mentoring Program

It has always been a practice to encourage new members to visit in the shops of other members to help them get oriented to turning. Now we are offering for new turners a special list of members eager to help along with their area of interest. Even some less-than-new members who would like to talk to someone in a special area might take advantage of the help with special interests

The following members have volunteered to serve as Club Mentors. If you have a woodturning or tool/equipment question, call one of these individuals. They would be happy to help.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Specialty</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Specialty</u>
Roger Arnold	830-866-3670	Shop Practices	Uel Clanton	830-896-5288	General/Spindles
L. A. Cude	901-355-7046	Lacquer Finish	Chuck Felton	830-792-5249	General
James Johnson	830-895-4170	All	Joe Johnson	830-896-5924	General
John Jones	830-536-4503	General	K. Longnecker	830-257-6033	Split Turning/Pens
Ken Morton	210-833-7148	Natural Edge	Raul Pena	830-6342545	General

THE BIG CHIPS” of HCT 2014

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.

President	George Taylor	(612)670-2607	gat54@mac.com
1 st Vice President	John Stegal	(830) 928-0859	Jrstegall43@gmail.com
2 nd Vice President	Roger Arnold	(830)866-3670	arnwood@hctc.net
Treasurer	Will Aymond	(830) 285-2702	waymond@stx.rr.com
Secretary	Kathy Hampton	(830) 634-3002	Kathy@hamptonshop.com
Past President	Ken Morton	(830) 896-5924	ken@woodshouter.com
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