



# Shavings

## Hill Country Turners Monthly Newsletter



Volume #19

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## Next Meeting October 9, 2014 MEETING PLACE

**Hill Country Turners** meet in the basement at 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.

### September Meeting:

#### Treasurer's Report from Will Aymond

Checking Account Balance	\$2,596.68
Petty Cash Balance	\$205.00

### Upcoming Meetings

**October 9:** 2014 Club Officer Nominations, 3 Short Holiday Demos and Raffle Night!

**November 13:** 2014 Club Officer Vote, Raúl Peña Demo

**December 11:** Christmas Dinner at Inn of the Hills

SWAT is starting a new program "Turners-to-Go". You can register online to travel to different clubs with your demo.

### 4th Segmenting Symposium

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](http://www.segmentedwoodturners.org/symposium.php)).

### Other Local Events

The Mesquite Art Show will be held **October 10-12** in Fredericksburg at the Market Platz.

### Christmas Party

Plans are in work for this year's Christmas party. The committee is planning the same venue and menu as last year. The club will be collecting for the Blue Santa charity again.

**Workshop** National woodturner, Jamie Donaldson, held *Hip to Turn Square* one-day workshops September 12 and 13 at Point Theater in Ingram. Here are a couple of photos. We will try to put more of them in the website in the show and tell area. Just show, no tell.



## Demo Notes: Jamie Donaldson, Hip to be Square

Jamie advised that the most important thing to remember when turning square blanks is to keep ALL body parts BEHIND the tool rest. By not turning the corners off, Jamie says he is following a Scottish tradition of using as much of the wood as possible. He demonstrated two styles of winged bowls. He first turned a bowl with the wings up. Then he turned a bowl with the wings penetrating the bowl.

When Jamie is evaluating a blank for this type of project, the wood must be sound. He looks for a solid piece of wood, no cracks. It can be green or dry. Jamie uses a 5/8" side ground gouge the most when turning. A side ground gouge has a uniform 60 degree bevel all the way around (also known as a "David Ellsworth" grind). Because the shavings can be hot sometimes, Jamie wears a golf glove to protect his hand.



### Wings-up Bowl

#### Step 1 – Shaping Outside of Bowl and Wings

Jamie jam chucked a blank against the chuck jaws with the tail stock. He recommended keep the tool rest close to the piece to keep as little of the tool as possible across the tool rest and hand turning the blank to check for clearance before turning on the lathe. Jamie noted that you should start the lathe slow and increase the speed as you work. Turn at a comfortable speed. It doesn't have to be turbo speed. Jamie shaped the outside of the bowl. (Keep in mind your plans for the tenon. It can be turned off or become a foot.) Jamie used a go/no go gauge as he shaped the bottom of the bowl to check that he would be able to create a tenon to fit the chuck jaws. He turned the wings to about 1/4" thickness. Jamie removed wood at tip of the wings a little bit at a time. (Remember you are mostly turning air, take light cuts.) Jamie recommends using CA glue on both sides of the corner tips to keep chipping to a minimum. He then used a parting tool to create a tenon. He advised, "Don't be chintzy with the tenon, you are going to be applying a lot of pressure on it."

#### Step 2A – True-up Outside of Bowl and Wings

Jamie turned the piece around, mounting the tenon in the chuck. He stressed that you check that the piece is mounted properly in the chuck. If there are any gaps between the shoulder of the tenon and the shoulder of the chuck, it is not chucked properly and the wings of your piece will not be uniform. Jamie uses the tailstock to help push the piece evenly into the chuck. He uses a golf ball over the live center to act as a u-joint to apply pressure, but allow for movement as the chuck jaws are tightened. Remember, misalignment will result in the wings not being the same thickness. Jamie trued-up the bottom of the bowl. He used the gouge as a scraper to smooth out the bottom of the bowl. Jamie noted that he would not be sanding during the demo, but at this point you can sand the bottom of the bowl and seal with sanding sealer.



#### Step 2B – Inside of Wings and Bowl

Jamie explained that the wing tips need to be worked first before the supporting wood on the inside of the bowl is removed. Therefore, the inside of the bowl will be worked from the outside in. Jamie uses a 5/8" gouge and the ghost image to start the cut at the edge of the wood. If you can't see the edge of the wood, rub the bevel on the wood and move out slowly to find the edge. Once the wings are shaped and the desired thickness, they won't be touched again. The rest of the inside of the bowl is turned the same as any other bowl. Jamie moved the tail stock out of the way and begins to remove wood aggressively. He noted that a 1/2" gouge (ground the

same as the 5/8" gouge) can be used for this. He removed wood from the outside to the center using a bevel rubbing cut, checking the depth as he got close to the bottom. He also checked the sides for uniform thickness. He noted that at this point you could sand the inside of the bowl and seal with sanding sealer.

### **Step 3 – Removing the Tenon**

Jamie noted that you can use a vacuum chuck if you have it, or use the jam chuck method to remount the piece for this step. The goal here is to remove any evidence of how the bowl was attached to the lathe. He used the jam chuck method to remount the piece, removed the tenon marks on the tenon and made a step ring 1/3 the height of the tenon. Jamie used a screwdriver turned into spindle gouge to make the base of the foot concave. He noted that at this point you would sand as needed. Jamie used a flex-cut chisel to remove the nub off the bottom. He noted that a 1" sanding disk can be used to sand the nub area.

### **Wings-penetrating Bowl**

Jamie worked this bowl much the same as the first bowl.

#### **Step 1 – Shaping Outside Bottom of Bowl and Bottom of Wings**

Jamie started with the same setup as the first piece. He determined how much of the bowl would be below the wings and shaped that part of the outside of the bowl. He noted that you want good definition between the bowl and the wings. (The top of the bowl and top of the wings will be shaped in Step 2B.) Jamie then formed the tenon.

#### **Step 2A – True-up Outside Bottom of Bowl/Wings**

He turned the piece around mounting the tenon in the chuck. He checked that he had the piece squarely in the chuck. Remember, misalignment will result in the wings not being the same thickness. He trued-up the bottom of the bowl and bottom of the wings.

#### **Step 2B – Shape Top of Wings and Bowl Top and Inside**

Jamie then removed wood from the tip of the wings in, shaping the top of the wings. Shape the top of the wings first, removing wood as necessary from the area that will become the top of the bowl. Remember to use CA glue on the wing tips to keep them from chipping out. Once the wings are the desired thickness, shape the top of the bowl. You may need to use a 5/8" detail gouge in the area between the bowl and the top of the wings. Remember, you want good definition between the bowl and the wings so it appears that the wings are penetrating the bowl. The inside of the bowl is turned the same as any other bowl. Remove wood from the edge to the center using a bevel rubbing cut. Jamie used a Hunter #5 carbide tip hollowing tool to finish hollowing out the bowl. Remember to check your depth. Check your sides for uniform thickness.

### **Step 3 – Removing the Tenon**

Jamie used the jam chuck method to remount the piece for this step. He removed the tenon, then used a flex-cut chisel to removed the nub off the bottom.

Some of Jamie's show and tell pieces have the wings down and the bowl resting on the tips of the wings instead of the bottom of the bowl. The wings of the wing-penetrating bowl can be turned up or down, toward the top, center or bottom of the bowl. Instead of a bowl you can turn a hollow form with wings... the variations are endless. Jamie typically uses rattle-can lacquer to finish his pieces. He recommends lacquer for light colored woods because it is clear and not yellow. He noted that Danish oil (which yellows) can be used on dark woods. For utilitarian pieces Jamie uses mineral oil.

### **Tips**

- Transition from peeling cut to sheering cut by rolling the tool, open flute to closed flute.
- Stop frequently to see where you need to take off more wood.
- If you hear a screeching sound – STOP. That is the sound of thin wood.
- Sneak up on the nub in the middle to avoid chip out.

- If you are getting a lot of tear out (even with a sharp tool), apply a coat of thinned lacquer (lacquer thinned with 5-10% acetone) to stabilize the wood.
- Sand the wings with the lathe off

**Remember next meeting is Raffle Night!**

**Show-and-Tell:** Roger Felps brought a bowl of Ginko, and said it was hard to turn and that he doesn't recommend turning with it. "Just look the other way" he said. It still came out attractive with a bit of texturing on the top rim. George Taylor showed a quarter sawn White Oak bowl that he said creates a lot of dust when turning. Vern Hallmark showed a Pecan bowl. Finally he got something round to show! Tom Canfield bought a "Frugal" vacuum system at SWAT and decided to make a couple of adapters instead of buying them.



Anna Rachinsky showed several boxes that started from Steve Promo's birdhouses using the birdhouse lids as lids for little boxes. James Hampton, in honor of Jamie Donaldson, showed a vessel that started as a square taper with a square top, body and base and a dandy finish. Will Aymond showed a wonderful work in memory of Nick Huntley that speaks to all of us, the framed result of "One Last Pass". He also showed a vase of California Redwood that "tears like crazy". Finally James Johnson revealed a nest of rough-out bowls derived from a log of box elder.



**2014 Food Sign-Up Sheet**

Month	Meeting Date	Drinks	Sweets
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.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Specialty</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Specialty</b>
Roger Arnold	830-866-3670	Shop Practices	Uel Clanton	830-896-5288	General/Spindles
L. A. Cude	901-355-7046	Lacquer Finish	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
Raúl Peña	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.**

<b>President</b>	George Taylor	(612)670-2607	gat54@mac.com
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b>	John Stegall	(830) 928-0859	jrstegall43@gmail.com
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>	Roger Arnold	(830)866-3670	arnwood@hctc.net
<b>Treasurer</b>	Will Aymond	(830) 285-2702	waymond@stx.rr.com
<b>Secretary</b>	Kathy Hampton	(830) 634-3002	Kathy@hamptonshop.com
<b>Past President</b>	Ken Morton	(830) 896-5924	ken@woodshouter.com
<b>Special Events</b>	Bill Hussey	(830) 896-8093	huzz@windstream.net
<b>Newsletter</b>	Jerre Williams	(830) 895-3206	jerrew@hotmail.com
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<b>SWAT Representative</b>	Jim Whisnand	(830) 755-8603	jswhizcal@aol.com
<b>Audio-Video Director</b>	Tom Whiting	(443) 243-6933	twhiting@stx.rr.com
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