



# Shavings

## Hill Country Turners Monthly Newsletter



Volume #19

Issue #10 November 7, 2014

### Next Meeting November 13, 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.

#### **Hill Country Turners**

President, George Taylor called the meeting to order. Guests and new members were introduced and welcomed. Members with health issues were noted.

#### **Treasurer's Report from Will Aymond (presented by George in Will's absence)**

Checking Account Balance \$2,382.47  
Petty Cash Balance \$205.00

#### **Board Activities**

The board met and 2015 officer nominations were discussed. Nominations were finalized by email.

#### **Dues**

Hill Country Turners Club 2015 dues will be accepted starting at the November meeting. Also, this is AAW renewal time.

#### **2015 Club Officer Nominations**

President	George Taylor
Past President	Ken Morton
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	John Stegall
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Kathy Roberts
Secretary	Joel Haby
Treasurer	Roger Arnold
SWAT Director	Tom Canfield

Anyone wishing to make another nomination, contact George. Voting for 2015 Club officers will be at the November meeting.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

**November 13:** 2015 Club Officer Vote,  
2015 Snack and Drink List,  
Suggestions for 2015 Programs  
Money for Christmas Dinner Accepted (\$25/person)  
Raúl Peña

**Open Shop:** The November Open Shop is TBD.

### **Special Reminders:**

It was good to hear from Will Aymond, even if he is laying (and sitting) down on the job. His recent e-mail to us all bears repeating . He says....

“Christmas Party dues are \$25.00 each person attending(@Inn of the Hills 12-11-2014 starting serving @ 6:30 pm Cash bar prior starts @ 6:00 pm. Hope to see all of you that evening we all have a GREAT TIME EVERY YEAR! Dress is as usual, what you feel comfortable with, Most show up business casual.. Santa will be there so bring your special turning to be shared with someone and you will get some one else’s special turning.

BLUE SANTA we will have a collection for this great Charity starting this meeting. Please make checks out to K.C.P.A.A.A. for this noble cause. The money stays in Kerrville and 100% goes to needy families . This is a tax deductible organization so let loose of some nice change

Some of you including myself like to pay for yearly dues @ same time as Christmas party is collected and this is very permissible, if so, write checks to Hill Country Turners or H.C.T. Dues remain the same \$35.00 Single \$40.00 for Family.

**Don't forget, dues and Christmas party can be on same check, Blue Santa must be on separate check made to "K.C.P.A.A.A."**

Thanks Will (Donations will be accepted at the November and December meetings.)

### **Holiday Project Demo Notes:**

#### **Joe Johnson, Bottle Stoppers**



Joe began his presentation with reasons to turn bottle stoppers. They are nice gifts for friends and relatives, they can be used for wine or olive oil, you can sell them at craft shows (a good price point for selling around \$20), economical to make because you can use those small scraps of wood in your shop, they are a good item to donate for raffles (present in small acrylic boxes from places like Craft Supplies or Penn State), and donated raffle items may lead to

more sales.

Joe explained that all his stoppers look the same (not variations like George’s Show & Tell items) because he is in production mode when he turns them. Joe uses a stainless steel stopper kit from Ruth Niles. He likes that the mandrel size exactly matches the stopper (13/16”).

Joe’s key efficiency tip – prepare blanks properly. Joe has a dimensioned drawing of the bottle stoppers he makes. From this, he knows the dimensions his blanks need to be and he makes consistent size blanks. He uses a machinists vice and the proper size drill bit in his drill press to drill the slightly undersized hole to screw the blank on the mandrel. Joe finds with this setup that the blank is more likely run true on lathe and he gets the hole perfectly perpendicular to face so there is no gap when attaching stopper bottom.

For Joe’s demo piece, he used properly prepped piece of orange wood (from Florida Orange trees) 2” long 1-1/2” x 1-1/2”. First he checked the fit of blank against mandrel. Next Joe rounded the blank. He shared that his bottle stopper dimensions were determined by the size of presentation box. The bottle stopper length will be 1-5/8”, with a transition to

stopper 1/4" away from the end. Joe then parted off the extra, leaving a little nub. He makes the top slightly concave, so he began 1/8" down from the end of the blank, cutting a radius down to the nub left from parting the extra off. The result was a plain top with a slight radius.

For the side, Joe makes a slight curved (not a straight line). He first marked a reference point of where to stop. Then he turned the curve down to the transition area. Next, he reduced the transition area down to workable size. Joe marked the approximate center of the transition area. He turned a bead from the center mark down to the bottom of the side curve. Then he turned a cove in the other direction, from the center mark down to the same diameter as the mandrel (which is a perfect fit for the stopper). Next Joe slowed down the lathe to sand – heat is not your friend when sanding. If Joe is turning a piece that is plain wood (not a lot of distinguishing features), he adds decoration to make it distinctive. Three rings is an easy decoration, Joe recommends an odd (not even) number of rings. He made 3 grooves, evenly spaced. Then Joe used piano wire with balls on ends, placed in the grooves, with the lathe at a high speed and leaning into it he burned rings in the wood. After burning the rings, Joe said you can buff any soot off.

Joe finishes his light wood bottle stoppers with diluted nitrocellulose, CA if it is specifically for wine use (alcohol affects some finishes), or lacquer and buffing to a tremendous shine. For dark wood (like mesquite) Joe uses a wipe on polyurethane. To attach the wood to the stopper, Joe puts either yellow wood glue or 5 minute epoxy on the threads and screws them together.

### **Kathy Hampton, Angels**



Kathy's presentation went through the process of turning angels. The first thing she considers is the treatment of each of the angel elements (halo, head, body, wings). Kathy turns the halo, head and body all out of one piece of wood, then uses a scroll saw to cut out wings. However, many different ways to produce angels can be found on the internet.

For body shape ideas, Kathy found different bell ornament shapes on the internet. The main consideration for the shape of the body is where wings will attach. Kathy showed how attaching the wings on a curved area would affect the support and angle of the wings. Kathy typically turns a bead that serves as a collar between the head and body, so the body is comprised of shoulders and a skirt.

Kathy starts the blank between centers. She marks a general plan on the wood – mostly to determine proportion, but also to avoid any cracks or holes in the wood. Then she draws lines at the points between the elements (top and bottom of halo, between halo and head, between head and skirt, skirt bottom). Kathy uses a parting tool to transfer the drawn lines into cut lines in wood so she doesn't lose the proportions as her lines get turned away in shaping the angel.



*rounded blank, with roughed out plan (halo, head, body)*

Kathy prefers turning the skirt and shoulders first and parting off at head/halo end. Therefore, when she rounds the blank, she puts the tenon on head/halo end. If you make a recessed

tenon at the skirt bottom, you can turn the head/halo first. Her caution here is the length of the angel may make a steady rest necessary for support.

Kathy showed a box elder angel that she chucked up using tenon, shaped body, then shaping the head and halo. For this angel, Kathy's plan was to make the halo appear to be around the top of the head with the top of the head peeking through the halo. She shaped the skirt and shoulders, used a bead as collar to transition between the shoulders and the head; shaped the head and halo (the head diameter should be less than the shoulders); sanded and sealed with Mylands friction polish. Her next step was to shape the top of the head and part off. However, when shaping the top of the head, she discovered that a worm had eaten into the wood far enough that this angel has a hole in her head! Otherwise she would have parted it off, hand sanded the top and finished the piece with spray-on lacquer. The reason she uses spray-on lacquer to finish the body is because that is the way she will finish the wings.

Kathy showed wing shapes of all kinds that she had found on the internet. Like body shapes, wing shapes are up to the craftsman. Kathy first determines the shape and size of the wings using paper. Once she is satisfied with the look, she transfers the shape onto a piece of thin wood and cuts the shape out using her scroll saw. Her caution here is to be aware of hard-to-sand areas in your shape. She uses a belt sander to taper from the center of wings to the edges, then a sanding mop to smooth everything out without losing the shape. Then the wings will be finished with sanding sealer and spray-on lacquer.

For attaching the wings, Kathy first makes a dowel with a small head (or if light wood, uses a pre-made dowel available from Woodcraft). Then using painter's tape, she tapes the wings to the body in the desired position. Using a v-shaped jig, she places the angel face down and uses the drill press to drill a hole through the wings and into the body. Kathy explained that the dowel can be glued into the body for permanent attachment or if the fit is tight enough, the wings can be left removable for easy storage. She has done it both ways.

Kathy then showed a utilitarian angel she had started. Her thought was to make it a box that would serve as a toothpick holder. Made out of black and green laminated wood, Kathy plans to use black wire to create wings for this angel. Instead of paper to determine the shape of the wings, Kathy showed how she was trying different shapes using black pipe cleaners. Kathy was a little off on her lid fit, and this angel kept losing her head!

### **Show-and-Tell:**

Joel Haby presented his first finished piece, a maple platter. Kathy Roberts showed a couple of Box Elder pieces showing colors other than red. She also had a stunning kaleidoscope that we did not get a picture of. Darrell Korman showed his first hollow form of found wood and turquoise inlay. Vern Hallmark showed a pecan bowl that had been so pithy that one piece fell out. He challenged others to find where he had glued it back.



Paul Hewett brought two Bradford pear bowls as finish examples. He used Zinsser Seal Coat over which you can use almost any finish, but guard against contaminating the finish container by pouring small amounts of finish into a disposable container. George Taylor brought a box of wine stoppers of various colors. He also had a square platter of dyed Poplar and presented it to Roger Arnold for his hard work coordinating the Donaldson workshop.



New member Bill Cantrell made a pepper grinder of Jobillo and a bowl of Grenadillo at Woodcraft classes and decided he was going broke taking classes and it was about time to join a club. Phillip Medghalchi brought a several bowls of Redtip, Bradford Pear, WA Apple, Walnut Burl and an Unknown wood.



**2014 Food Sign-Up Sheet**

Month	Meeting Date	Drinks	Sweets
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**

<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
<b>KACC Liaison</b>	Uel Clanton	(830) 896-5288	
<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
<b>Webmaster</b>	Linda Arnold	(830) 866-3670	arnwood@hctc.net
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.hillcountryturners.org">http://www.hillcountryturners.org</a>		

**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.**