



Shavings

Hill Country Turners Monthly Newsletter



Volume #20

Issue #1 January 29, 2015

Next Meeting, February 12, 2015 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.

Meeting:

John Stegall and Ken Morton lead a relatively small group while George is recovering from surgery. Topics discussed were the need for more volunteers to fill the drinks and snacks openings and a new call was made for people to help set up and break down the meetings. Preliminary sign-up sheets were passed around and will be filled at this next meeting.

Note!: As a temporary measure the word is out for the February meeting.

Drinks – Anna Rachinsky

Snacks – Darrell Korman

Setup – Darrell Korman and Jerre Williams

Dues are still due for some.

There will be a Craft Supply order after the February meeting, Roger Arnold has sent out some e-mail about this so contact him.

KACC would like some video of turning demos and that is underway.

Demo - Long Stem Goblet



Ken Morton's presentation began with wood. He sees a good starting point for the blank to be 2-2 ½ " by 12" (This is more or less, how long do you want the goblet or how long do you think you can make it?). Good woods are VERY straight grained myrtle, maple, oak, walnut, cherry or poplar without voids or cracks. Make sure you have a chuck that fits.

One can make a one piece goblet (like Jimmy Clews) or fix a long stem to a separate cup and/or base (Allan Carter).

The Blank: Round the blank so that it is balanced and will present minimal vibration. Clean up the ends, mount and re-true the blank. If you use long nosed jaws, make sure you have even diameter for the most stable grip.

Several tools can be used exclusively or in partnership with each other – bowl gouge, skew, parting tool, spindle gouge and even roughing gouge.

Cup Shape: Consider an open top (ogee) or a closed in lip, but size the top to balance, visually, the base. The base should also be considered in making any surface features on the outside of the cup. The open cup can be turned either with a "tiny" bowl gouge (outside to in) or a tiny detail gouge (inside to out). Use a hollowing tool for the closed lip cup.

Start everything at the far end of the blank. Set the shape on the outside and leave some of the base of the cup undone to support the forces of hollowing. Even at this stage (with the rest of the blank un-thinned) the forces involved in hollowing will tend to cause chattering if you get heavy-handed. Even with a light touch it may be helpful to devise some means of steadying the end of the piece. Any catches will potentially throw the blank off balance and at that point it is difficult to restore any workability.

Sand and finish the inside of the cup. From here on, it is necessary to sand each section as it is finished and before going to another section. The thinness of the stem will not support more than a small section's worth of sanding. Don't go back!

Now you can finish and sand the base of the cup and any decorations to that base..

Stem Design: A tapered stem slightly larger at the bottom is friendly to the eye. Other embellishments, if any, should be in close relation to the thinness of the stem.

Work Piece Support: The stem carving process can be made easier with some support at the tailstock live center, but the support can be only to prevent side-to-side movement on rotation. Any pressure toward the tailstock will result in bending the stem, causing uncontrollable vibration and snapping the stem. Of course, in not very extreme cases the forces could merely be enough to just crush the stem outright. One school has it that a golf ball, drilled to fit the tailstock, is a great tool to fit into the head of the cup. Others speak fondly of Styrofoam or soft foam balls for support. The brave can even try the whole thing unsupported, except for the occasional finger backing up the cut opposite the tool.

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Finally: Finish off base and try to pay attention to be true to cup design. Sand and Finish on the lathe. Part off carefully and finish base.



MARCH CHALLENGE!!! Long stem goblets. Ken Says: “Here are the rules for the March Challenge along with a definition of a goblet for Vern. I would also like to clarify the “supported or unsupported” prizes that I talked about. You can do it either way supported or unsupported it is up to you. You should at least start out unsupported just to see how your tool handling technique is. What I stated was that if you **won** either the thin or long stem category and you swore to me that you did it completely unsupported, after it was mounted in the check and preliminary rounding was done, that I would give you an extra \$20.”

Show-and-Tell:

Only one for January, John Stegall wanted to show us the magnificent grain in this unfinished piece of box elder he got from James Johnson to show that our local wood couldn't be beat.



James Johnson Open House



Here are some pictures from the grand day out at James and Anna's place. His goal was to show how to cut logs for turning bowls and it was astounding. After a theory session at the drawing board to talk about the size and placement of cut logs, the group went to the cutting yard for a demonstration. A crotch of box elder was selected. (1) The waste ends were cut off.(2) A cut was made at 90° to the axis of the crotch to provide a stable platform. (3) Mounted on the platform the main cut was mad part way through the center line. (4) While the piece was still stable, the sides were removed (5) (6) The center cut is completed revealing the two blanks. Thanks James.



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Some of the crowd

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.

Name	Phone	Specialty	Name	Phone	Specialty
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			

President	George Taylor	(612)670-2607	gat54@mac.com
1st Vice President	John Stegall	(830) 928-0859	jrstegall43@gmail.com
2nd Vice President	Kathy Roberts	(325)247-6266	katloy@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Will Aymond	(830) 285-2702	waymond@stx.rr.com
Secretary	Joel Haby	(210) 884-6762	Haby@gvtc.com
Past President	Ken Morton	(830) 896-5924	ken@woodshouter.com
Special Events	Bill Hussey	(830) 896-8093	huzz@windstream.net
Newsletter	Jerre Williams	(830) 895-3206	jerrew@hotmail.com
KACC Liaison	Uel Clanton	(830) 896-5288	
SWAT Representative	Jim Whisnand	(830) 755-8603	jswhizcal@aol.com
Audio-Video Director	Tom Whiting	(443) 243-6933	twhiting@stx.rr.com
Webmaster	Linda Arnold	(830) 866-3670	arnwood@hctc.net
Website	http://www.hillcountryturners.org		

THE BIG CHIPS” of HCT 2015

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.