

Echoes from the "BAT" Cave

Baltimore Area Turners



August 8, 2007

Volume 2, Issue 8

BAT goes Back to Basics



(Above) David Reed Smith demonstrates changing speeds on BAT's Jet Mini-Lathe. More Inside.

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Raffle



(Above) Tool tote and video, Oak, Cherry, Purple Heart, Walnut, and a large piece of Maple were raffled at the August meeting. Thanks to Woodcraft for donating the Tool tote and video.

BAT goes Back to Basics



(Left) Keith Holt assists David Smith in jam chucking walnut bowl blank.

(Right) Dave coaches Bill Shelton in bowl gouge technique.

(Below) Dave explains the theory and practice of shear scraping.



Ernie Grimm shapes a bat.



Wayne Kuhn roughs a bat blank.



Shavings swarm from Cort Robinson's spindle roughing gouge.



Lou Rudinski shows how to sharpen a gouge.



Abe Goldstein shapes a big bat.

BAT went batty during our August meeting. Mini, Midi, and Maxi lathes were in operation with practice turning baseball bats. Veteran turners shared their knowledge and expertise with BAT.

David Smith spent the evening demonstrating bowl turning techniques on a blank of green walnut. Before a crowd of experienced and novice turners,

cutting a tenon, shaping the outer profile, hollowing, and finally, shear scraping to leave an easy-to-sand surface. He went into intricate detail on the theory and practice of tool design and application, including demonstrating his own shear scrapers fabricated from HSS drill rod. He coached several volunteers in tool technique and answered questions galore.

Meanwhile, two Rikon midis

and a full-sized Rikon lathe were put to use turning ash spindle blanks into baseball bats. Various techniques and tools were on hand for Wayne Kuhn, Abe Goldstein, Paul Jackson, Ernie Grimm, Cort Robinson and others to make shavings fly. From roughing to final sanding and parting off, they went batty.

Lou Rudinski manned the sharpening station and coached in freehand and jigged sharpening techniques to get the perfect edge.

How To Turn a Baseball Bat



Turner Paul Jackson demonstrated his chops at the August meeting. Here he goes through the steps of turning a miniature baseball bat. He starts by driving the spur drive into one end of the ash blank. After securely mounting the blank between centers, he roughs the blank to a cylinder and then carefully cuts the bat profile.

Satisfied with the shape, he removes any tool marks by sanding. Finally, he parts off the ends using an unorthodox but effective technique.

BAT turners will be demonstrating and coaching baseball bat turning on 9/1/07 at Woodcraft in Towson.



September: Show and Tell

September's meeting will be your opportunity to show BAT what you've been working on. Do you have a turning you want to show off? Are you flummoxed by finishing? Does tear-out have you tearing your hair out? BAT has turners at all levels among its members, from novices to nationally recognized artists. Show and tell sessions are rife with helpful discussion of techniques, tips, and more. Bring in your projects and your problems.

(left) 4-chamber stacked box by Soma Jobbagy. How did he do that?

**Do you have any library items at home?
Several items in the library are MIA.
Please bring your overdue items to the next meeting.
Share the wealth.**

Baltimore Area Turners

Baltimore Area Turners meets every month on the second Wednesday of the month at the Greater Baltimore Woodcraft Store at

1125 Cromwell Bridge Road
Towson, MD 21286

Next meeting:

September 12, 2007 at 7:00 PM

Agenda: Show and Tell

Treasury

Treasurer's Report	
6/30/07 Balance:	\$1,817.75
Additions:	
July Raffle:	\$86.00
Dues:	\$40.00
Subtractions:	
Dues Overpayment:	\$10.00
Library Acquisitions:	\$94.89
7/31/07 Balance:	\$1,838.86