

Echoes from the "BAT" Cave

BALTIMORE AREA TURNERS

April, 2017
Volume 12, Number 4

Secretary/Newsletter Editor NEEDED !!

The club is in need of a new Secretary/Newsletter Editor. Volunteer and become a member of the elite BAT board! More details later on in this newsletter! :-)

Joe Dickey gives us the "Skinny" on goin' thin!



Joe Dickey demonstrates thin walled turning.

Joe Dickey, a local turner from the Annapolis area and also an AAW Board Member demonstrated how to turn thin walled bowls at this month's meeting.

He used 2 nice pieces of fresh Holly for his demonstration that were bolted to

faceplates. Joe doesn't like to use chucks because he's seen too many turnings become dislodged from chuck jaws.

To turn thin you need to start with green wood that has not been dried.

Visit us on the web at www.baltimoreareeturners.org

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Joe works in the dark with just one lamp shining into the bowl to illuminate the wall thickness.

Joe also likes a secondary grind on his bowl gouges. The usual single grind can yield a washboard effect on the surface. Having a secondary grind lessens the tendency.

Joe started off by cleaning up his outside diameter and trueing up the blank. After that he started hollowing his bowl just like you would any other bowl.

To get the walls ultra-thin, he started at the top of the bowl turning the bowl walls thinner. He'd just turn thin out the first inch or two, leaving the lower section of the bowl with thicker walls. This was to keep the bowl strong during the turning. He used a light shining into the bowl to shine thru the thin walls. By examining the translucency of the thin wall he was able to get a uniform "thinness". After getting the first inch or so to the desired thinness, he turned the next inch or so of the bowl down to the desired thinness. He progressed in this manner until he reached the bottom of the bowl.

As he was turning, the green wood would start drying out due to the centrifugal force throwing off the wood's moisture and the heat of turning and the lamp would also slowly dry out the wood. To keep the bowl blank from drying out too much, he kept a spray bottle of water nearby and would occasionally re-wet the blank.

After turning the sides down to his desired thinness, he reverse mounted the blank and made the bottom concave so that it would always sit flat and not rock on its base after drying.

As an encore, he took a second blank and turned it thin also. But this time he deliberately went to thin to show what happens when the inside diameter exceeds the outside diameter.

President's Challenge

This month we only had one entry for the President's Challenge. We had Ron Ford's stool.



Penn State Road Trip

The Newsletter Secty couldn't go on the road trip to the Penn State woodworking store. Maybe someone who did can write up a little report and send it to me so others can read about what they missed by not going!?

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Write something, send in a picture . . . anything would help ! :-)

Beads of Courage Submissions

This month we had 4 Beads of Courage bowls submitted. These bowls will be donated to children with life threatening illnesses who are spending most of their young lives in hospitals.

The Beads of Courage project (www.beadsofcourage.org) is a very worthwhile charity. The club would like to encourage its members to make and donate a lidded bowl. Just bring your bowl to a club meeting and we will see that it goes to a needy child in a local hospital.

There are a few guidelines for making the bowl and they can be found at: <http://www.beadsofcourage.org/pages/woodturners.html>. If you have difficulty making a large diameter container, there are several ways of using a piece of 6 inch diameter PVC pipe and turning a base and lid. The turner covers the white pipe with fabric with a child appropriate pattern. I've seen them on the internet, you'll have to do a Google search to find them.



Raffle News

We had an usually large selection of raw wood for the raffle this month. In fact, to make the raffle go faster, when your number got called, you had to take TWO items!



Sect'y/Newsletter Editor Needed !

Richard Deitrich has had to resign from his post as our Secretary/Newsletter Editor due to unforeseen family circumstances. Your Webmaster (Dave Mardt) is currently attempting to fill the extra large shoes that Richard left behind. Richard has done a **stupendous** job during his many years of service to the club. If you think you might have an interest to fill the position, please speak with any board member. They'll be glad to fill you in on what would be required. Come on! Join the elite BAT Board !

Baltimore Area Turners

Baltimore Area Turners meets every month on the second Wednesday of the month. Our meetings are held at the Boumi Temple at:

5050 King Avenue
Baltimore MD 21237-3325

Drive around to the parking lot at the back of the building and enter thru the set of glass doors. If the door feels like it's locked, it's not, just give it a tug. :-)

President's Challenge #3

The third President's Challenge has been announced!

This challenge will be to make a turning with a natural edge. The turning can be a bowl, vase, mushroom, ... Anything as long as it has a natural edge as part of the design.

