

Echos From the “BAT” Cave

NEW LATHE, IRON MAN, WARREN CARPENTER DEMO



Between more blizzards, BAT had a another busy month. We got a new lathe, installed shelving, had 10 entries to the President’s Challenge and had an excellent demo by Warren Carpenter. *Above: President Yaakov Bar Am snuggles against the new lathe. Below: (right) Ron Ford seems surprised to succeed at his ball in cup game; (left) Warren chats with Lou Rudinski.*

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Baltimore Area Turners

BALTIMORE AREA

TURNERS

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A few of the entries to the President's Challenge

IRON MAN RESUMES

10 members submitted their entries in the first President's Challenge of 2014 which was to make a ball and cup toy.

Wayne Kuhn made a kendema of Oak and Maple, **Jim Oliver** made an Ash toy, **Dave Mardt** made two toys, **Kenny Leister** made an oval version of SpectraPly using the lost wood technique, **Richard Dietrich** made a Mulberry cup and Ash ball, **Clark Bixler** made a Basswood toy. **Charles Stackhouse** made a Maple toy with a captive ring; **Louis Harris** made two toys of Tulipwood, Maple, and Bokote; **Ron Ford** made a Cherry toy, and **Greg Ham** made one of Rosewood.

NEW LATHE AND SHELVING

BAT has a new lathe. Long a line item on the budget, we finally pulled the trigger and got a Jet 1642 EVS. We got a great deal from Amazon. The lathe was set up by **Wayne Kuhn, Ron Ford, Bob Pegram, and Tom Szarek** who made a pair of dollies for transport and also installed storage shelves in the store room. The old lathe was taken by **Matt Grimes** who said he has the means to make it like-new. A Win-Win-Win!



Revamped storage area.



Wayne Kuhn excitedly discusses the sweet deal he got on the lathe.



View from the cockpit



WARREN CARPENTER DEMO

South Carolina turner, Warren Carpenter, came to BAT to demonstrate one of his trade-mark styles - winged bowls. He came well endowed with three crotches to work. He started with the traditional split crotch approach which produces a bowl or platter with feathery grain. He explained that the usual preparation of such crotches is to cut from pith-to-pith-to-pith and remove the center which, unfortunately, cuts away most of the desired feathery grain. He showed a Pecan crotch which he had split

off-center with a bandsaw. The big half would be turned face-grain to reveal the area of optimal feathering.

Shifting gears, he showed how his winged

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Clockwise from upper left: Warren shows crotch; which he splits bare-handed; he shows orientation of the wings in the crotch; he chops out some excess wood; his efficient traveling tool kit.





First crotch mounted on lathe



First cut on new lathe



Just before the drive center slipped



Plan B: inverted crotch winged bowl layout

MORE WARREN

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bowls are cut end-grain. His big pieces are turned on his Oneway 24" but he brought out another Pecan crotch which fit our 16" lathe. The crotch was balanced in angle and leg size and had bandsaw cuts removing the center and the bottom. He mounted it between centers using a 2-prong drive spur on an extension and a live cup center on the tailstock. He tried to balance the wings as he mounted it. Starting slowly (about 600 RPM), using a 5/8" bowl gouge with an Ellsworth grind, he started shaping the exterior with bevel-rubbing cuts. Alas, the drive center slipped and dug in. The piece could not be re-centered. Time to move on.

He then took a Cherry crotch and demonstrated a third way to turn: inverted. The legs are cut perpendicular to the crotch and the piece is mounted between centers, balancing front to back and side to side. He recommended locking the spindle and rocking the piece back and forth to help the drive center fully dig in. As he turned the exterior, he explained that he keeps 7-8 identical sharpened bowl gouges in his shop so he can quickly switch to a fresh tool when one dulls. He turns green wood which will start moving very soon after cutting so time is of the essence. He cut



Magically parting the wood

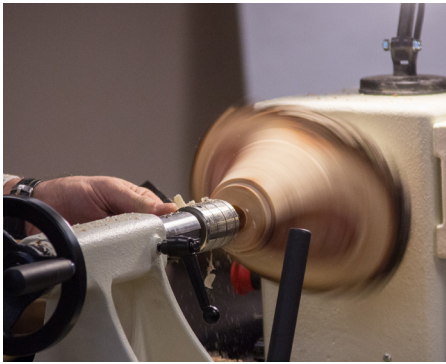
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Mounted between centers



Shaping the exterior



Cutting the tenon



Hollowing the center



The finished bowl



Some of Warren's pieces:
A split crotch bowl (with nut
shell insert)



A winged crotch bowl



A nested set of cored bowls

STILL MORE WARREN

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a tenon with a 1/4" English grind bowl gouge. After mounting in a chuck, he began hollowing. He did this stepwise, taking about 1 1/4" down to final thickness, then proceeding to the next 1 1/4". He used a curved Hannes-type tool rest to access the center of the bowl.

He said that, after turning, he puts some thin CA glue on the piths, inside and out, and puts the bowl on a rack with a towel over it to dry. Once dry, he would rechuck and power sand, using flat paper on the outside, wave paper on the inside from 80-400 grit. He would jam chuck to turn off the bottom and finish. He said he turns about one piece per day and numbers them with a serial number which has the date encoded.

This was a fantastic demo, full of tips and techniques, and a fitting session for our new lathe's maiden voyage.

Zoom in on these photos to see the exquisite detail.

TIPS AND TRICKS

- Warren's One-way chuck has a turned handle on the chuck key. This is held in with a 1/4" lag bolt and is much more comfortable than the supplied metal handle.
- He uses a belt sander to sand a flat spot on the handle of each of his tools to prevent rolling.
- He finishes his works with [Liberon Finishing oil](#) applied with [4-0 Liberon steel wool](#). The excess is wiped off and the piece is coated with paste wax applied with a cloth. (The wax holds the oil in the pores.) The next day, it is buffed with 4-0 steel wool and rubbed with flannel.

LATHE STORY

It was so cold and the light was blinding. I was feeling disoriented from my recent trip and was worried when they opened my container. When I saw their warm smiles, though, I felt reassured. They carried me into a heated room and bathed me with something that took the travel grease and grit off my surface. Before I realized what was happening, I had grown legs and was well off the ground. I still wasn't clear about what was going on but these guys, who I later learned were named Wayne, Ron, Bob, and Tom, kept lavishing me with attention and I felt well loved. I felt a tingling sensation as they plugged my cord into the wall. They made jokes about turning me on but I remained cool and calm. They stood a nickel on its side on my head and turned a knob. I felt something moving inside me faster and faster but I stayed calm and motionless on the outside. The nickel stayed standing. I was tired and needed a rest.

When I woke up from my nap, I saw lights and cameras all around me. What were they up to? I saw many admiring glances from the group of people who had gathered in the room. Then *He* came in. I knew from his name, Warren Carpenter, that he was good with wood. Amid much talk about crotches and mounting I came to realize that I was going to have a workout.

During his talk, Warren softly caressed me and assured me that he would be gentle. One of the crotches was placed between my head and my tail and, once again, I felt that moving feeling. The wood was spinning like crazy and when Warren touched it with his long tool, I could not contain myself. Chips flew all over. It felt wonderful at first but, wait, something was wrong! I was shaking on the outside. Warren put his master hand on me and gently adjusted my belt. Turning my knob again, I felt the power rising within me. This was what it was all about! I could hardly bear it! The audience murmured satisfied moans as he continued to work on the crotch with his delightful tool.

He had his way with me several times that night. Each time we would start slowly, then go faster and faster until he was satisfied, then change positions and start all over again. Never did I feel such satisfaction as when I saw the products of his – *our* – labors. By the end of the evening, I was covered with shavings and

felt warm all over. I felt complete contentment as they cleaned me up and gently wheeled me into a cozy corner to rest. I had finally realized my purpose in life and found a home. I think I'm gonna like it here.



The new BAT lathe resting comfortably in the storage room.



RAFFLE NEWS

Sycamore, Cherry, and River Birch logs, Dogwood branch, spalted Maple split, Walnut chunk, Osage spindle blank, Maple bowl blank, the latest issue of American Woodturner and more were donated by generous BAT members for the monthly raffle. Thanks to all!

BALTIMORE AREA TURNERS

Baltimore Area Turners meets every month on the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be held at the Boumi Temple at

5050 King Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21237-3325

Next meeting:
April 9, 2014 at 7:00 PM

Agenda: Show and Tell



SECRETARY'S CHALLENGE

In May, your secretary will be out of state for his daughter's wedding and will miss the BAT meeting.

You are all challenged to take photos and/or notes of the demonstration, the raffle, the room, the officers, in short, anything that happens at the meeting. These will be edited and incorporated into the May Newsletter.

Get your work published! Send your pix and notes to admin@baltimoreareaturners.org.

IRON MAN CHALLENGE

The following members have completed the first of the six President's challenges. (You may submit your entries at any meeting up to the December Holiday Party meeting.)

Clark Bixler	Richard Dietrich
Ron Ford	Greg Ham
Louis Harris	Wayne Kuhn
Kenny Leister	Dave Maidt
Jim Oliver	Charles Stackhouse

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

BAT President Yaakov Bar Am has announced the second President's Challenge for 2014:

April – Turn a Winged Crotch bowl. Wings must be 3" or larger.

(This is the second entry in the Second Susan Shane Memorial Iron Man Challenge.)