

Echos From the "BAT" Cave

MUCHO MOCHO



Michael Mocho (*above left*) gave a whirlwind demonstration of texturing techniques and other facets of turning. He brought numerous examples (*above right*). His continuous patter and excellent technique kept the participants (*below*) mesmerized.

We also have two more BAT Bios.

BALTIMORE AREA TURNERS



MORE INSIDE



Baltimore Area Turners

May, 2015

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Librarian	Clark Bixler
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BAT members showed their creativity in turning a standard carver's mallet.

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

Four eager beavers brought their June President's Challenge pieces to the May meeting. They were measured and displayed during the meeting.

Bob Rupp filled his Maple mallet with lead, **Ed Cohen** made two mallets, **Greg Ham** and **Chuck Cohen** each made one.

2015 Susan Shane Memorial Iron Man Challenge

		<i>Gavel</i>	<i>Box</i>	<i>Mallet</i>
Clark	Bixler	x	x	
Chuck	Cohen		x	x
Ed	Cohen			x
Richard	Dietrich	x	x	
John	Fisher		x	
Ron	Ford	x	x	
Ernie	Grimm		x	
Greg	Ham	x	x	x
Louis	Harris	x	x	
Pete	Johnson	x	x	
Richard	Kline	x		
Wayne	Kuhn	x	x	x
Robert	Lindlau	x	x	
Dave	Murphy		x	
Bob	Rupp	x		x
Roland	Shepard	x	x	
Charles	Stackhouse	x	x	



MICHAEL MOCHO DEMO

BAT President Ron Ford's announcement said Michael Mocho would cover "simple textural techniques including chatter-work, embossing, moiré textures, and use of the Sorby spiral system as well as emphasizing the importance of understanding how such variables as RPM, material selection, tool rest adjustment, grip and stance all have an effect on the final shape and surface quality." Amazingly, he did this and more in a well designed and well paced demo. The 2 hour session went by in a flash.

He started by showing some examples of texturing using BAT's video setup. He showed spirals, chatter-work, and other patterns on end grain and on side grain. Then it was time to show how-to.

Fashioning an ornate three piece spinning top gave him a launching point for discussion of all the above techniques and more. He shared the wisdom wrought by his 40 years of woodworking experience in an entertaining and crystal clear presentation.

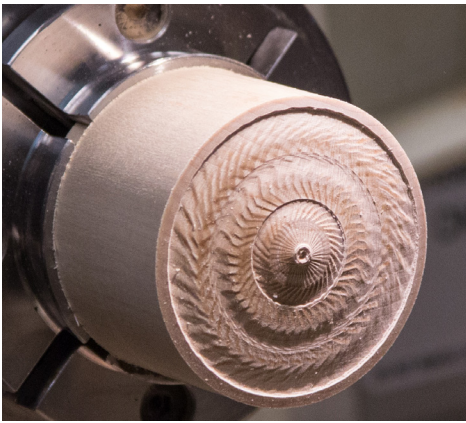
Some notable quotes:

"If you ask a turner a question, you better pull up a chair."

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(Counter-clockwise from upper right)
End grain chatter-work; side grain spiral; Michael at work; embossed patterns; beaded spiral; turning end-grain funnels.



Skew chatter-work



Sorby spiral tools



Spirals cut by Sorby

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MICHAEL MOCHO DEMO

“Turning is carving – the lathe is a motorized vise.”

“A good cut starts on the floor.”

He took time to explain every aspect of every cut he demonstrated, starting from the feet up. Roughing out a piece of pear, he showed his stance, with feet shoulder-width apart and how he only moved his lower body, keeping the arms, hands and head in the same position as he used the spindle roughing gouge. His overhand grip of the tool resulted in pressure on the base of the little finger and the thumb. He showed a planing cut using a skew chisel with the tool rest above center. Changing to a grip with his index finger under the tool rest and thumb against the tool, he made V-cuts, neatly removing a notch in 1 piece. Raising the tool rest higher, he rolled beads with the skew then made a tenon with a bedan.

He mounted the blank in a chuck and proceeded true up the end, turning thin end-grain funnels one after another. He turned the skew on its side and made it chatter to cut a pattern on the end-grain. (“Any tool can chatter.”) He turned a spiral on the body of the top with the Sorby spiral tool. He explained that the spiral tool blade was a negative rake scraper and cut the wood. (Other tools, such as the [Wagner Texturing tool](#) only emboss the wood by compressing fibers.) Before parting it off, he drilled a 3/16” hole through the center.

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Spiraled top bottom



Textured top top



Turning a sphere with a hole saw scraper



Grip on a parting tool.

MORE MOCHO

(Continued from Page 4)

Then he worked on the handle and the point. He cut a tenon on both by cutting it larger than needed, then pressing on a [dowel plate](#) through several sizes, ending with 3/16." He pressed the plate onto the tenon using the tailstock with a hollow center. This keeps the plate at right angles to the tenon. When he finished, they fit perfectly. Finally, he assembled the three parts into a sweet top.

He gave a short slide show. There were some technical difficulties but he succeeded in showing slides of the evolution of lathes followed by an overview of his woodworking. He makes mostly furniture but has made guitars and violins. He turns some parts for his furniture. Most of his turning, though, is ornamented and carved boxes. He had numerous examples of very ornate boxes he had made.

He ended by turning a sphere, roughing it with a gouge, then using a hole saw with the teeth ground off as a scraper.

This was a great demo. Michael gave us an avalanche of techniques and tips but his humor and his easy manner kept it digestible. Thanks a lot!

Tips from Michael's demo

TIP:

Keep your Morse Tapers clean - wipe them out before inserting any attachment.

TIP:

Remove two jaws from a 4 jaw chuck to allow multi-axis turning. (He uses a thread cutter cutting end-grain wood on 2 axes to create moiré patterns.)

BAT BIOS



We continue a new series of biographical vignettes about your fellow BAT members.

Wayne Kuhn has done the legwork, interviewing and photographing the members. Participation is strictly voluntary.

This month we feature our Librarian, Clark Bixler and member Edward Cohen.

Clark Bixler

Clark lives in York PA. He is not married and has no children. He works as an engineer for Dewalt tools, is a carpenter by trade and a woodworker by choice.

Clark has been turning since the 8th grade and was re-inspired in 2008 when he became a BAT member.

According to Clark, he has tools all over the house. His Delta 46-40 12x16 midi lathe is upstairs and he has a Delta 46-755 16x42 full size lathe in the basement.

He does not have a favorite style of turning but will try to turn anything at least once.

Clark does not actively try to sell his work but has sold a piece or two in the past.

His favorite turner is Jimmy Clewes.

When not in his living room turning on his midi lathe or in his basement on his full size lathe, Clark can be found carving or metal-working (blacksmithing or tinsmithing) as well as a myriad of other crafts. He also works on his antique cars and trucks.



Edward Cohen

Ed lives in Sparks MD with his wife of 23 years, Patricia. Ed has 1 son and 2 granddaughters. He works as an orthopedic surgeon at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Ed has been turning for about a year and one half "if you don't count the carving and shaping of bones" He is still working on finding his favorite type of turning as he is trying a little of everything until he lands on that special interest. "I have enjoyed learning to turn bowls, lidded boxes, hollow forms, spheres, eggs, bottle stoppers and tops." Coloring and tinting as well as segmented pieces are in Ed's future.

Ed has been a member of BAT for about 1 1/2 years. He was inspired by another BAT member Chuck Cohen, who was at his house to tune his piano. Chuck gave him a turned gift and Ed was forever sucked into the vortex known as woodturning.

Ed has been mentored by Chuck since he began turning. Louie Harris has been giving Ed lessons on a regular basis at his shop as well. Ed has two very good mentors to keep him in the vortex.

Ed turns on a Jet Mini lathe located in his studio he calls his barn. Ed does not sell his work but enjoys giving his work to friends and family.

When not turning wood, Ed can be found in his topiary garden, shaping his specimens with the same attention as his lathe projects.

After many years, Ed has recently given up participating in his two favorite sports, polo and fencing. However he still enjoys the non-contact aspects of each.

If you would like to contact Ed e-mail him at Polodoc@erols.com



Walnut and Black Cherry Splits, Sapele, Walnut and Cherry spindle blanks, an Ikea lamp, a new can of Polyacrylic finish, a roughed Poplar bowl, a hunk of maple salvaged wood and more were donated by generous BAT members to the May 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:
June 10, 2015 at 7:00 PM

Agenda: [Rich Foa](#) - Turner, wood artist

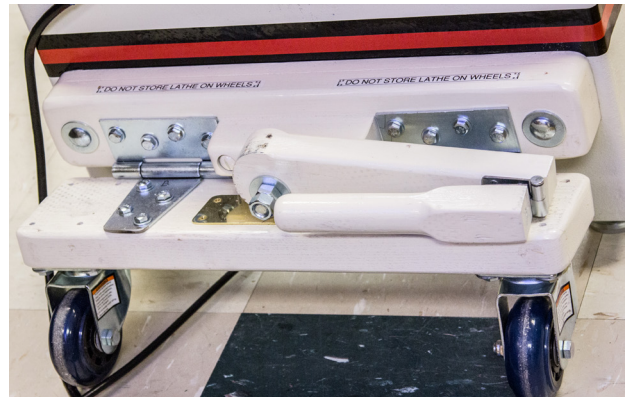


MOBILE BASE

The Mobile Base for the Jet Lathe has been completed.

Parts - \$95.52.

Design, Manufacture, and Installation by Wayne Kuhn - Priceless. Thanks, Wayne.



PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

BAT President Ron Ford has announced the third President's Challenge for 2015:

June – Turn a Carver's Mallet to specifications. (See *Below*)

Try to keep the measurements to within 1/4" of specs. (Note - this is a change.)

