

# Echos From the "BAT" Cave

Baltimore Area Turners

BALTIMORE AREA



TURNERS

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## SORGE SURGES FORTH



Mike Sorge (*above*) amazed BAT (*below*) with his high speed turning skill. He made two demonstration pieces with only one catch. Superb tool control.

We also have entries to the fourth President's Challenge of 2015.

## MORE INSIDE





Matching candlesticks and a make-up mallet were presented in September.

## PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

Five more BAT members entered the fourth Presidential Challenge for 2015.

**Louis Harris** made two pairs: Pine multi-axis and Cocobola and Brass, **Ed Cohen** made a Mahogany pair, **Chuck Cohen** also made a Mahogany pair, **Stan Dorman** showed his Maple pair and **Ron Ford's** were Cherry.

**Richard Dietrich** entered a Wild Cherry Mallet to Challenge #3

### 2015 Susan Shane Memorial Iron Man Challenge

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





(Counter-clockwise from upper right)  
Mike's tools; Chatting with BAT mem-  
bers; Starting piece; Finished diamond  
bowl; Finished pagoda box



## MIKE SORGE DEMO

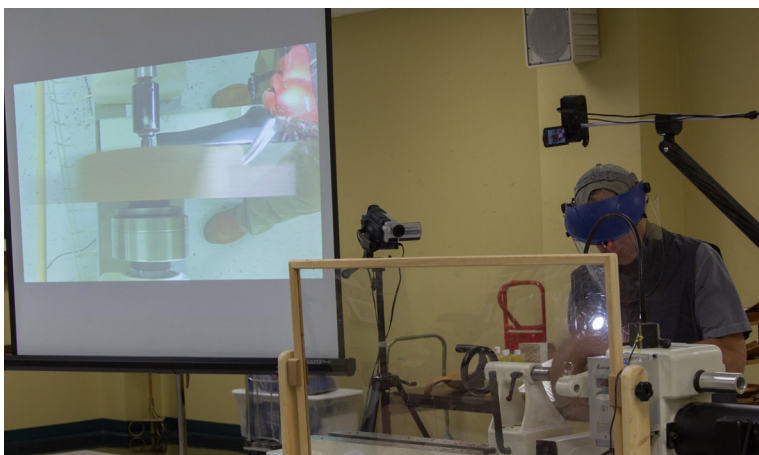
Virginia Woodturner [Mike Sorge](#) graced BAT with a superb demo of his Big Air Geometric techniques. He said he's only been turning for 6 years but his tool control and the efficiency of his cuts bested that of many more experienced turners. Because of his proclivity for high speeds, he is known as the second most dangerous woodturner (after [Jimmy Clewes](#)). A large crowd of turners came to watch his demo.

He turned two projects for the demo. The first was a diamond bowl. He started with a diamond-shaped 2" piece of Bubinga. He had cut away a notch in each of the long ends to repurpose as wooden jewelry and bored a hole in the top to mount in a chuck. After mounting on the chuck in expansion mode and marking the toolrest to show the end of the blank, he started spinning at 2500-3000 RPM. He said that at that speed, using slow tool movement, the wood cuts like butter. He applied his 5/8"

*(Continued on Page 4)*







Mike's cuts were visible to the whole group



Chips fly at a high speed.

## MIKE SORGE CONTINUES

*(Continued from Page 3)*

bowl gouge with a swept back grind and the heel ground down and proceeded to cut a tenon. The tenon was  $\frac{1}{2}$  the diameter of the bowl and deep enough to contact two grooves of One-Way chuck jaws. He then cut away the exterior of the bowl and began to form the wings.

Using shear cuts, he trimmed the top face, turned a gentle cove on the top of the wings and finished shaping the bowl and the bottom of the wings.

He flipped the bowl and slowed the lathe down to 1800. He trimmed the wings to uniform thickness to the edge of the bowl, then cored out the bowl with the McNaughton system. He showed how easy it was when set up properly – a finesse rather than a power technique. Finally, he finished the interior of the bowl. The core would be turned into a shallow bowl to fit inside the winged bowl. He did not sand or finish the piece but said he would typically hand sand the wings and power sand the body to 400, then spray to raise the grain, then go to 600.

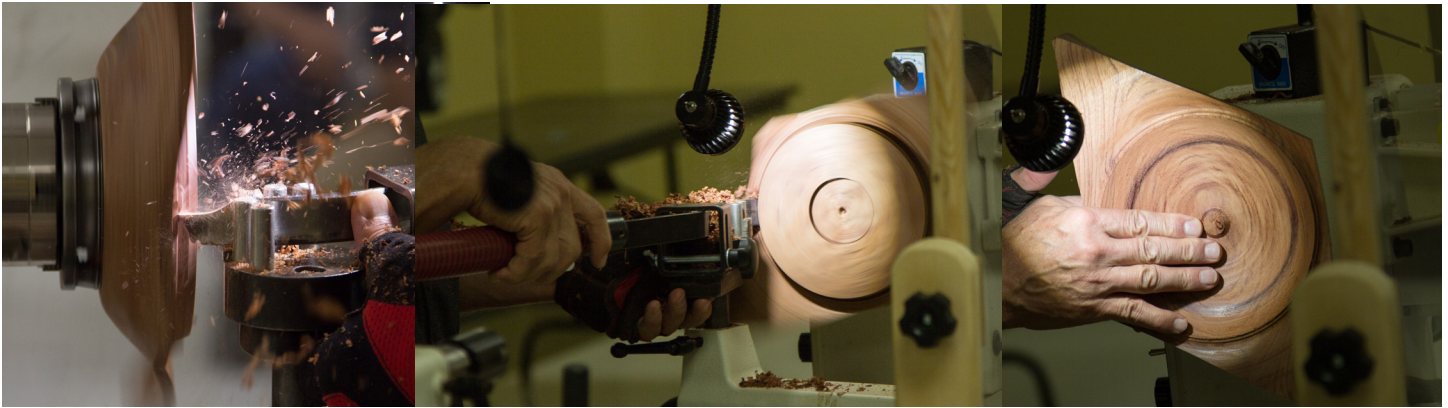
*(Continued on Page 5)*



Shaping the corners



The desired result



McNaughton system cores out a bowl blank

The resulting cavity - thickness is just right

## MORE SORGE DEMO

*(Continued from Page 4)*

His second project was a Pagoda Lid Box made of Zebrawood. He took a prepared base with the bottom turned and a tenon formed and mounted the tenon in a chuck. He cut down the wings to make a dome. Using a bowl gouge, he enlarged the center opening to depth, then hollowed the walls of the dome shaped box with an EZ Wood Hollower. He sped up the lathe for the final pass which left a very smooth finish.

The lid was made of a piece of Zebrawood glued to a walnut slab. He turned a tenon on the Zebrawood, mounted it in a chuck and turned the lower edge of the top from the Walnut, forming a tenon. He mounted the Walnut tenon in the chuck with a rubber insert in the chuck jaws and brought up the tail stock to support the piece. He then cut the remainder of the top making a very deep cove near the base. He sanded the deep cover with sand paper around a rod. Finally, he turned the pagoda top, removing the tail stock at the very end.

He stayed for quite a while afterward answering questions posed by the enthusiastic crowd.

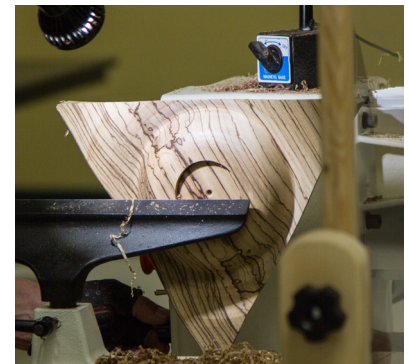
BAT has had many demonstrations over the years. This was one of the best. Packed solid with tips and techniques. His enthusiasm for turning was contagious. We all left inspired. Thanks, Mike! Great demo!



Final cut on diamond bowl



Mike's Bowl Gouge grind



2nd demo - Pagoda Box

*(Continued on Page 6)*



# DEMO - FINISHING BOX

(Continued from Page 5)



(Clockwise from upper left)  
Hollowing box with gouge;  
Hollowing sides with EZ  
Tool; Blank for lid; Cutting  
coves; Lid fitted on box;  
Finished lid; Deep cove  
cut; Bottom of lid showing  
tenon.



Turnings on display



Goods for sale





## RAFFLE NEWS

Cedar, Ash, and a grab bag of other pen blanks, a mahogany log, splits of Pear, Walnut, and Tree-wood, Holly and Maple spindle blanks, Osage Orange, Cedar, Birch and Cherry logs, Cherry, Yellowheart, and Walnut bowl blanks, and an assortment of roughed bowls were donated to the raffle by generous BAT members. Mike Sorge donated 3 bottles of TY finish and one diamond template. Thanks to all!

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## 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:  
October 8, 2015 at 7:00 PM (Note- this is a Thursday)

Agenda: [Barbara Dill](#) demo - multi-axis turning  
(There will be a \$10 fee for the demo)



## SOME YOUTUBE VIDEOS

Here are a few turning or tool related videos you might find interesting:  
(Note: language may not be safe for work.)

Denton (TX) Turning Club's  
[Tips and Tricks 2014](#)

Thanks to Wayne Kuhn who recommended these two:

[AvE](#): Tool reviews by deconstruction and other topics.

[Tools in Action](#): Not as deep as AvE but entertaining.

Check them out.

Got any others?  
If you have found a website of interest to turners, send it to me at [BaltimoreAreaTurners.org](mailto:BaltimoreAreaTurners.org) to share with others.

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## PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

President Ron Ford has announced the 5th Presidential challenge for 2015:

Create a multi-axis turning. Must use 3 axes\* or more and must be 8" or longer. Be as eccentric as you like.

Display space will be set up at the November, 2015 meeting for Multi-axis and other Presidential Challenge entries.

\*axes is the plural of both axis and axe.  
In this case, it does NOT refer to tools.