

# Echos From the "BAT" Cave

Baltimore Area Turners

BALTIMORE AREA



TURNERS

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## SPINDLES IN THE CLOWN ROOM



Louis Harris walked BAT through use of the parting tool and spindle gouge in a hands-on session (*above left*). This was done in our new meeting room - the Boumi Clown room (*above right*). The clowns watched patiently as BAT members turned beads and coves.

### *2016 Officers:*

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Stephen Jones

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Materials for the demo



Louis roughs a cylinder

## SPINDLE HANDS-ON

For the second time this year, Louis Harris brought his years of experience to bear with a hands-on class on use of the spindle gouge and the parting tool. It was a new room. Boumi had moved our meeting place from the Band room to the Clown room. (Presumably not a reflection on our skills.) Three lathes were set up for use by BAT members anxious to use their newly learned skills. Also, while this was going on, three different video cameras were being tested – our HD Video camera, a compact digital camera set on video mode, and an iPhone.

Louis started by inserting a [Morse Taper Adapter](#)

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Extended drive center



Smoothing the cylinder



Testing for flat spots





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BAT pays close attention to Louis' safety intro.

to keep the morse taper mounted drive center away from the headstock. This gives room to maneuver the tools and to avoid hitting the metal tool against the metal headstock. (If you get one, be sure to get a [Drift Key](#) to remove your drive center.) Mounting a 2x2 spindle blank between centers, he proceeded to rough out a cylinder.

He demonstrated several different styles of parting tool and their uses. He said his favorite was the [Ashley Iles tool](#) with a tapered blade – 1/8" on the top and 1/16" on the bottom. Pushing the tool straight into the center line will cut a rough groove. Cutting a little above center will produce a peeling cut. One can wiggle the tool or cut close parallel grooves to keep the tool from binding.

Next, he pulled out several spindle gouges of various designs. He showed how to do a planing cut using the side of the fingernail grind. He showed how to make coves, starting in the middle and working towards the edge of the cove. Then he showed how to make beads, making room at the sides of the bead with V-cuts made with a skew or a spindle gouge. Then the bead is cut from the edges toward the center.

After his demonstration, the group was invited to try their hands at using the tools. Experienced turners coached novices in spindle

## MORE SPINDLES



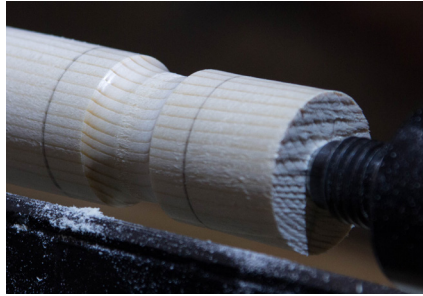
(Above) Parting tool cut  
(Below) Tapered parting tool



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# BEADS AND COVES



(Clockwise from upper left) Turning a cove; The cove; V-cutting borders of bead; Steps in rolling a bead; finished beads and coves; BAT members take their turns



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technique. Wayne Kuhn fired up the grinder and demonstrated techniques in sharpening various spindle gouge grinds.

This was another very practical demonstration of some of the fundamentals of turning technique.

Thanks, Louis!







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## EVERYBODY MUST TURN COVES

(Clockwise from upper left) Louis Harris coaches; BAT members watch closely; Jim Conlon is stunned by all the sparks from sharpening; the three video cameras.





## PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

Four members entered pieces to the President's Challenge:

**Bob Sobczak** brought an African Mahogany handle, an Oak apple and a Walnut board bowl.

**Ron Ford** entered a Fruit & Nut segmented board bowl of Apple and Walnut.

**Don Keefer** entered a Bubinga and Maple board bowl and a Poplar and Walnut urn both made with a scroll saw.

**Greg Ham** cleverly packaged an Ash pear in a Harry and David bag and entered Walnut and Poplar tool handles.

### 2016 Susan Shane Memorial Iron Man Challenge

	Handle	Apple/Pear	Board Bowl
Richard Dietrich	x		
Ron Ford	x	x	x
Greg Ham	x	x	
Louis Harris	x		
Don Keefer			x
Wayne Kuhn	x		
Bob Rupp	x		
Bob Sobczak	x	x	x
Charles Stackhouse	x	x	x



## RAFFLE NEWS



A white grindstone, Beech, Bubinga, Walnut, and Patriot Color pen blanks, Pen kits, a Mahogany block, Cherry and Maple splits, Holly rounds, and a large Purple Heart spindle blank were generously donated by BAT members to the May Raffle. Thanks to all!

## BALTIMORE AREA TURNERS

Baltimore Area Turners meets every month usually on the second Wednesday of the month. Not so in June. The next meeting will be held at the Boumi Temple at

5050 King Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21237-3325

Next meeting:  
June 15, 2016 at 7:00 PM

Agenda: Show and Tell - Bring up to three works in progress or completed projects to discuss with BAT.



## BOARD ELECTION

Unless you live under a rock, you must be aware of the upcoming US Presidential election in November.

Another seminal event will also occur that month. The BAT Board will be up for grabs. The Board consists of officers and members at large and meets monthly.

Is the club meeting your needs? Do you have ideas as to how better to spread the Joy of Turning? Consider becoming part of the group that makes it happen.

Speak to any current Board member if you are interested.

## FEWER MISSING BAT LIBRARY ITEMS

BAT has an extensive library of turning related books and videos. Unfortunately, some of the items are still missing. However, Librarian Clark Bixler reports that some have been found. You may still have one squirreled away somewhere. Take some time to recheck your nooks, crannies, and cubby holes for items belonging to BAT. If you find any, please bring them in. No questions asked.

## PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE #4

BAT President Ron Ford has announced the fourth President's Challenge for 2016:

**July** – Turn a whistle.

(This is the fourth entry in the Fourth Susan Shane Memorial Iron Man Challenge.)