

ECHOES FROM THE “BAT” CAVE

BALTIMORE AREA TURNERS

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Phil Rose - Split Turning

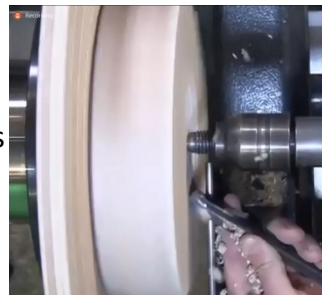
Phil Rose was our demonstrator for the February meeting. Phil showed us how he makes his split turned sculptural pieces.



What starts as something that resembles a simple bowl with a flat bottom is turned into a sculptural piece that naturally directs attention to the wide flat bottom.

Phil uses a variety of techniques to embellish the piece and especially this central area, including paint pouring, molding paste, air brushing, wood burning, and sometime glass.

Phil starts his pieces with a dried blank approximately 9 inches in diameter and 2 1/2 inches thick. He places it on a large plywood drive plate, and using a pull cut, trues an area in what will be the top for a tenon.



After a tenon is established, he reverse chucks the piece. He cleans up the top of the blank (on headstock side) to establish what will be the top edge of the bowl.

He then works from the tailstock side to establish a tenon on the base and the outer profile of the bowl form.

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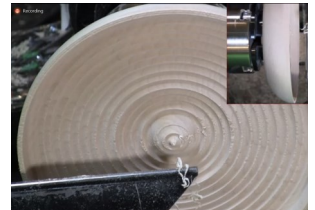
Phil Rose (continued)

When turning the outer profile of the bowl form, keep in mind that the area on the inside and outside bottoms of the form are to be flat and the same size. Also, because the form will be cut and glue together at the rim, the outside edge should meet the rim perpendicularly.



Now that the outer profile is complete, chuck the form (left) by the tenon on the bottom and proceed to hollow the interior.

Phil works in stages starting at the center and working out towards the rim, going about 1/3 of the way to the bottom in each stage (right).



Because the center of this piece will contain a paint pour, Phil created a small lip around the flat center (left) to contain the pour. It's important that the lip and this area match the flat section on the outside as the piece will be separated along this line. It's also important that the center be perfectly flat so the paint will cover completely.



He now mounts the form in a set of Cole jaws and removes the tenon from the foot. He will also flatten the bottom and reduce it so it's a uniform thickness with the walls of the piece. He often will finish with some simple rings or turned embellishment on this flat bottom section.

The form will be cut apart to result in two pieces as shown to the left.



To layout the cut, he first determines the best grain orientation, realizing also that the front of the finished piece will actually be the bottom of the small section removed. He marks the center line at the rim.

Using a piece of "fun foam" as a template for the edge profile, he places it so that it meets the rim on a line perpendicular to the rim. He traces around the template with a pencil.



He does this a total of four times to layout the cuts. He also marks out with arrows the path of his long cut, so he actually gets the piece he chose as the best grain for the front face of the finished form.



He uses a scroll saw to cut the form. A band saw could be used as well.



Phil Rose (continued)

There are many options for embellishing the center disc. Shown below are just a few. On the left, is an example of acrylic molding paste and airbrushing. In the center, carving, pyrography, and painting. On the right, an example of an oil based paint pour.



To finish the piece, the two halves of the bowl form need to be glued together. Position the two halves so the ends are balanced as best as possible. Use a single piece of blue tape positioned at the middle to hold the halves in position. This allows the pieces to be opened like a hinge and apply Titebond II to the edges. Phil likes Titebond because the squeeze out is easily cleaned up with a wet rag.

Use additional pieces of blue tape to pull the joint tightly together.



Once the glue is dry, use a sander to blend the ends of the two halves together.

Phil uses 1/8 inch brass rod, epoxied into the piece for display mounting. He positions the piece upside down over a 2 x 6 placed on edge and drills the mounting holes into the bottom of the sculpture using a drill press.

Looking forward to seeing some pieces with variations of these techniques at the next show and tell!



The President's Turn



This year is off to a flying start with Membership at an all-time high of 75 members to start the year. Thank you to everyone who renewed their membership and to several new members.

The February drop-in call was a tour of my shop. Thank you to all that participated in the call. If you want to do a tour of your shop please let me know. It can be done with live video or photos. In addition, we can most likely get you some help taking the pictures if you would like. Finally, please continue to submit topics for discussion on these calls as this is a forum for members to discuss items in a more general format that our regular meetings allow.

During these challenging times when meeting in person has not been possible, the club has established a number of ways to help us communicate and stay in touch. These include:

- Monthly Meetings via Zoom
- BAT Website
- BAT Facebook Page
- BAT Drop-in Zoom Calls
- Newsletter (Sent via e-mail and posted to the website)

Please take advantage of them. I realize that some of the above doesn't work for everyone. I am hopeful that we will resume (in some form) in-person meetings prior to the end of the year. Nothing has been finalized yet, but I expect that we will continue to carry the meetings via zoom when we meet in person thus giving you the option to attend either way.

You should have now received the second President's challenge. I hope you will have fun with it and seek help if needed. As always, the key is to work on our skills. You can always find the complete list and supporting information for the challenges on our website.

If you haven't heard yet, both the 2021 AAW National meeting and Lancaster meeting have been formally cancelled. Yes, we're all sad. AAW is going to expand their virtual format from last year.

Please stay safe out there and that applies to when you are turning as well.

Regards,

Bruce Lamb
BAT President

BAT Mentoring



Please know that free mentoring is available to all paid members. This is a great opportunity to get some one on one expert advice on any questions, problems or other issues you may have in relation to your turnings. So if you're frustrated, unhappy or just not completely satisfied with your turnings this your chance to get help. Our experienced mentors can help you with all aspects of wood turning. Whether it's basic bowl turning, hollow forms, spindle work, sharpening, sanding, embellishments, etc.

No question or problem is too small. In just one free, 3-4 hour session you could take your work to an entirely new level. The sessions are also relatively anonymous. Only I, the mentor and you will know. So please at the next meeting take this wonderful opportunity to fill out a mentoring request form.

Thank you,

Chuck Cohen
Mentoring

What's on Tap?

The March meeting will be a demonstration of turning bottle stops by Eric Krum.

Eric is a member of the First State Woodturners Club and the International Wood Collector Society.



Interested in sharing a tool, technique or project with the club? Demonstrate your project-in-progress at an upcoming BAT meeting. Contact program director Richard Hill for details.

2020 President's Challenge

First Challenge: for 2021 is to turn a candlestick.

Second Challenge: Turn a nice shaped bowl. [See pdf for more details.](#)

Third Challenge: TBD

Fourth Challenge: TBD

Fifth Challenge: TBD

Sixth Challenge: TBD

2021 President's Challenge Results

Name	Candlestick	Bowl	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Andy Arconti	X	x				
Scott Bleakney	X					
John Elder	X					
Jim Fisher	X					
Ron Ford	X					
Lou Harris	X					
Tonas Kalil	X					
Steve Kelban	X					
Jim Oliver		X				

Baltimore Area Turners Meetings

March - Erik Krum - Bottle Stoppers

April - Show and Tell

BAT Club Discounts

- Mark Supik & Company - \$20 discount on instructional classes for members of BAT (www.marksupikco.com/workshops) 410-732-8414 mark@marksupikco.com
- Hartville Tools - 15% discount for club members plus free shipping. (www.hartvilletool.com) 800-345-2396
- Penn State Industries - 10% discount for club members. (www.pennstateind.com)
- Klingspor Woodworking Shop – 10% discount on all non-powered merchandise in catalog
- Exotic Lumber (Annapolis and Frederick) – 10% discount
- Freestate Lumber (Timonium) – 10% discount
- Lyle Jamieson Woodturning - 10% discount due to club demo (lylejamieson.com)

New BAT Website

Our Webmaster, Dave Maidt, has been working hard on a brand new BAT website, and it is up and running! New look and feel, and incorporates many new features we will be able to take advantage of now and in the future. The website address remains the same at <https://baltimoreareaturners.org>

One area that needs your attention is the Gallery. Dave has created a wonderful space for everyone to share their work. Please send pictures to bat@diadav.com and they will be posted.

Thanks again to Dave for this terrific upgrade!!

- BAT Board

New BAT Facebook

BAT has a new Facebook page. Close to 30 members have joined, but only a small handful are contributing content or posting information. This is a great way to stay in touch during these unusual times, and everyone is encouraged to take advantage of it.

Please remember that this is a private page available to BAT members only, and that you must have a current Facebook account to join.

To join, click on the following link and click on "**Accept**" at the top of the page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/355364505441249/?ref=share>

Please log on today and start sharing pictures, projects, etc.

- BAT Board

Want to build your woodturning skills?

The American Association of Woodturners (AAW) strives to deliver the publications and services that our members need to grow, connect, explore, and thrive in the areas of woodturning that are important to them. With nearly 16,000+ members and 360+ chapters internationally, AAW's many resources, including our award-winning *American Woodturner* journal, help our members to learn, create, and connect.



By signing up for a complimentary Guest membership, you can have limited access to a sampling of AAW resources for a full **60 days**. You'll be able to explore what the AAW has to offer, kick our tires, and hopefully decide to become a full-fledged, paid AAW member to benefit from everything the AAW has to offer.

Visit us at woodturner.org

BAT is a local chapter of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW) which serves the Baltimore metropolitan area. A wide range of skills and interests are represented by our members. Work ranges from small utilitarian project to galley art and includes pen making, bowls and platters, hollow forms, small projects, furniture spindles and architectural work. We are fortunate to include professional turners and published authors among our members. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in woodturning, and guests are always welcome.