



Louisville Area Woodturners

LAW Newsletter June / July 2014

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Notes from the June 12th meeting:

If you do not have a name tag or do not receive e-mail notices please Contact Robin Costelle.

At this point we only have 3 Christmas ornaments for the Festival of Trees.

The Beads of Courage could use some more boxes. If you wish to make and donate some please contact David Weller.

Parker Curtis is looking for a few pens for the Pens for Vets. You can either bring them to Parker or donate a pen directly to a service man or woman.

The club needs someone to organize getting Anchorseal for the club. This will include the plastic containers to hold it. July's demonstration will be Ron Thomas turning pens and other pieces.

June 12th Demo

Robin Costelle has been doing a series of turnings at the Louisville Nature Center. The subject has been a dyed two piece hollow form. Due to the weather one session was cancelled so Robin continued it at our regular monthly meeting.



The main subject of the demonstration was the dyeing process he uses. He gave an overview of the process up to that point for any one that had not been at the Nature Center.

If you are going to dye a project the more figure, curl or burl that your wood has the better it will be.

1. Form your blank between centers with a tennon on both end.
2. Turn it to the shape you want.



3. Part the top from the bottom allowing a little on either side of center for alignment. You can hide this seam later with an embellishment.



- Hollow the top and bottom sections leaving the walls about a 1/2 inch thick. Leave the bottom a little thicker so you have room for a small tennon later.



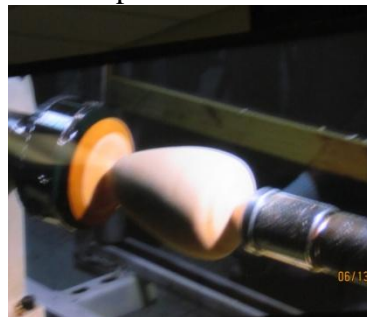
- Soak the halves in alcohol and allow them to dry.

After drying;

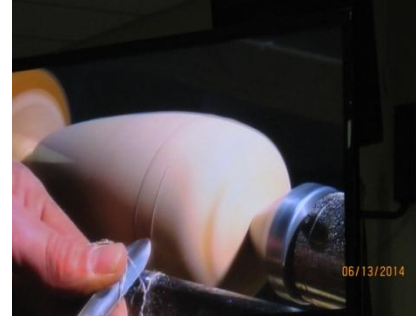
- True up the up the tennon on the base and top.
- Smooth the outside with light cuts to remove any bumps from wood movement.



- Use a sanding board to flatten the edges for a good gluing surface.
- Repeat this for the bottom.
- Align the two pieces between centers with the best grain match you can get.
- Turn the outside to its final shape.
- Hollow the top and base to about a 1/4 of an inch wall thickness.
- Glue the halves together aligning as best you can and leave it between centers overnight or longer for the glue to cure.
- After the glue has dried true the form to its final shape. You will have to guess on the thickness of the walls.
- Drills a hole for the top finial.
- Use a cone center to hold the piece.



- Sand to 220 or 320 tops using cloth backed sand paper held at an angle. Always wear a dust mask or respirator when sanding.
- Add indentions lines to either side of the glue joint.



- A piece of formice will make nice burn lines. You can burn the area, dye it, use a colored marker or grooves to embellish here.
- Create a 1/4 inch tennon at the base and part it off with a saw.

Dyeing:

To get the grain in your piece to stand out you will use a series of dyes.

- The base coat of dye is black water based dye. This soaks in more readily. Robin used Brewax dye for this.
- Apply a nice even coat.
- End grain will soak in the dye quicker so go lightly and add more if necessary.
- Water based dyes take longer to dry than alcohol based. Both will raise the grain.
- After it dries sand off the excess dye.



What you come up with is the black in the porous grain as a highlight and a base to work from.



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6. You want to start with the lightest color dye first. Blue is the strongest color.
7. Start with a yellow or light green coat. Let this dry and sand again lightly. If you do not like the look you can blend the colors using more dye.



8. Use the blue dye last.



9. Let the piece dry and then use lacquer not polyurethane or oil based finish. Poly may cause a yellow tint. You are looking for a high gloss on the finished piece!
10. Put on a thin coat of lacquer and let this dry over night.
11. Add a coat of sanding sealer.
12. Spray lacquer outdoors!
13. Keep the piece moving to avoid runs.
14. Using an air gun at 40 to 50 pound max you can build up light coats quickly.
15. 30 light coats and allow the lacquer to cure at least a week.

Finishing:

The secret to the high gloss finish is wet sanding. This gives you an even surface.



Starting at 800 wet sand with soapy water until there are no shiny spots. These are low spots in the finish. It should now look evenly dull.



Next wet sand at 1500.

Polish on a buffing wheel using white diamond compound. Be careful and use a very light touch or you can melt the finish. Barely touch the piece to the buffer.



Add a coat of Renaissance wax and buff.

The finial and base will be demonstrated at the next Nature Center meeting.

Show and Tell



Woven baskets by J. R. Williams.



Maple burl bowl with copper filler by Steve Gossert.



Dyed hollow forms and an enamel plate by Ron Thomas.



A bowl from a board by Donald Holbert.

Bonus Turning

On July 2nd Robin Costelle finished his series on a two piece died hollow form. The last step is the finial and base.



Using the piece from the last regular meeting demonstration Robin showed how he mounted and finished the piece.



1. Using a piece of African black wood, ebony or dyed holly create a ¼ inch tennon.



2. Create an indentation with a forstner bit so the tennon fits the base nicely.



3. Bring up the tailstock for support.



4. Follow the curve of the form.

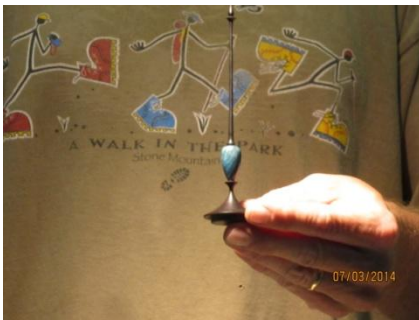


- Bring the bottom to flair in.



- Use a jam chuck or vacuum chuck to finish the base. Sand and finish.

Three piece finial:



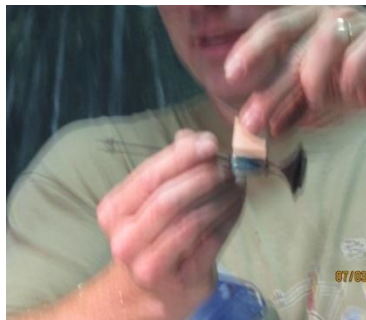
- Robin used a straight grained piece of holly for the finial.
- Round the blank.
- Start at the tip.



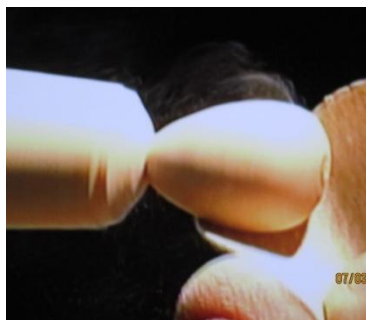
- Use a spindle gouge and rolled up sand paper to get the shape.
- Sand the tip to 2000 grit.
- Pull your tool from larger to smaller diameter.



- Sand to final shape.
- Make a detail at the base with a 1/8 inch tennon.
- You will glue on a contrasting piece of figured wood you will shape and dye later.



- Drill a hole for the finial and ca. Shape the block into a copy of the hollow forms shape. Sand and dye this like you did the hollow form.



- Follow the curvature of the form and base to make a the cap.



- Add your tennon and part it off.
- Dip it in lacquer.
- Glue the finial and knob together. Use the tail stock as a guide so you can align it straight.



- Dye the holly pieces and lacquer.

July 10th Demonstartion

Notes:

The Louisville Area Woodturners now has a facebook page.

Elections for board members will be held in October.

Richard Stottman needs three volunteers to donate pieces for the October Hosprice auction.

The Cristmas party will be December 5th at the Bristol downtown.

Marvin Ewing brought in some pieces he bought at the Arizona symposium.



A Peach Tree Hollowing system 79.00\$



A Flute Master 150\$ minus the Fordham tool and



a Kissinger indexing wheel that comes in 4 or 5 different combinations 40\$.

Ron Thomas was the demonstrator for the July meeting. He would cover pens, a thimble and a lot of good advice.



Ron began by showing how he likes a pens shape to be made. A small barrel that is tapered..



He prefers Stabilo kits as they will write on glass, wood and plastic. When cutting your blanks leave them about a 1/16 longer. Mark the orientation.



Glue in your tubes. Use a pen vise and a barrel trimmer to get them ready.



A set of deep Nova chuck jaws using 2 jaws is a good alternative to a pen vise for drilling.



Ron found that an added bonus was it now replaced a thimble making rig he bought but was not satisfied with.

1. Drill your hole.
2. Form the outside.



3. Add a line at the curve.
4. Sand, wax and part it off.

Pens:

Ron next showed how he made pens.

1. Use a good pen mandrel. It is worth the investment.
2. Ron uses Hot Stuff Red to glue the tubes in which can be messy. Keep a bottle of solvent handy. Acetone works but not as well.
3. Make up blanks in production mode 20 at a time. Index and cut them all at once. You can come back later and them later.
4. When you glue the tubes in let them set over night.
5. Place the blanks on your mandrel orienting the points or lines you marked.
6. Use a skew to shape.



7. Sand and finish. Polish with Hut to a gloss. Exotic woods may not take the finish as well.



A few some rules of thumb for pricing them:

About 20\$ per pen.

Time is money and a pen is the least involved for your time.

Double the price or even triple it. If the wood is 2.00\$ double it to 4.00\$.

If you sell the pen at wholesale you still made 100% profit.

Be sure to consider your shop time. Is it worth 5 10 or 20 to you?

Consider the power you used and any insurance costs etc... These all figure into your time.

When you can buy kits and boxes in bulk.

Show and Tell



A cherry Beads of Courage box and snake wood ornament by Mac Langford.



A maple Beads of Courage box and ornaments by Glen Carby.



Three ornaments and



A bowl and platter by Richard Stottman.



Pens by Bruce Netherty.

The next meeting will be on August 14th at the Walden School at 6:30. Our own Rob Roby will be demonstrating a birdhouse Christmas ornament. Hope to see you there and don't forget your show-n-tell and Christmas ornaments and Beads of Courage boxes.

Also anyone interested in being on our club Board of Directors- we will be taking nominations for positions and may be taking a vote if necessary at the September meeting. Five positions will be up for renewal. You do not have to be present at the September meeting to be voted on the board if you can't make it, but please let someone know if you are interested.