

Minnesota WoodTurners Association

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AAW | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS



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III. Things that May Be of Interest

A. How Good Is Your Face Shield?

The article, “[Safety Matters: In the Eye of a Survivor](#)” by Lynne Yamaguchi, is recommended reading for every wood turner. It depicts a tragic accident, four years of surgeries and returning to turning while learning to live without depth perception. As she returned to turning, she reviewed the capabilities of face shields. She discovered that a face shield offers little protection when spinning cracked bowls at high speeds. The article depicts a means to calculate the risk when turning a questionable piece at high speed. Finally, it denotes precautionary steps that she takes with high risk turnings.

Everyone who has read the story, believes we all need to have an appreciation of the damage possible by a high speed wood explosion and to know steps to protect ourselves. For this reason, it has been made available to everyone on the AAW website. Links and procedures to get to the article are noted below.

Again the title is: “[Safety Matters: In the Eye of a Survivor](#)” by Lynne Yamaguchi
It is available at the AAW website at <http://www.woodturner.org/default.asp?page=Safety>

Members can sign in and go directly there.

Non members must first sign up for a free guest membership at
<http://www.woodturner.org/page/GuestMemberLanding>.

Thanks to Lee Tourtelotte for calling attention to this article and to Linda Ferber for posting the piece on the AAW website.

III. Things that May Be of Interest

B. New AAW Publications (for AAW members only)

1. A special edition entitled “[Get a Good Start at the Lathe](#)” by Bob Rosand is now available at the AAW website on the tips web page. It contains 17 tips for beginning woodturners. Topics include grinder speed, sharpening, tool rest height, lathe speed, chucks, finishing, and more. There may even be a few tips that more experienced turners will find helpful.
2. The September edition of Woodturning FUNDamentals contains an article based on an inquiry of a member. The member asks, “what is the optimum angle for



using a scraper?" John Lucas responds with an explanation and accompanying video. This publication will be available September 10.

III. Things that May Be of Interest

C. Tools and Sharpening Theory

(This information was obtained from an article by Carl Powell that appears in the August, 2016 newsletter of the Montgomery County Woodturners, <http://montgomerycountywoodturners.org>. Linda Ferber forwarded the article which has some thought provoking points that have been taken from the article.)

1. Negative Rake Scrapers versus Scrapers

"Stuart Batty stated in an article for *American Woodturner* that negative-rake scrapers worked better than normal scrapers, even if the latter were held so that the edge was presented in exactly the same fashion. Richard Raffan stated in a different article (also in *AW*) that a normal scraper could be used instead of a negative rake one just by holding it in a different presentation. They cannot both be correct.....

Who do we believe, Richard Raffan or Stuart Batty?



In the illustration, the normal scraper and the negative rake scraper have exactly the same edge geometry. This can be seen in the 'superimposed' picture as the cutting edges line up exactly. While the setting for the tool rest will be different, they will be sharpened on equivalent bevels, so they should develop equivalent burrs. Since the wood has no idea what is happening behind the

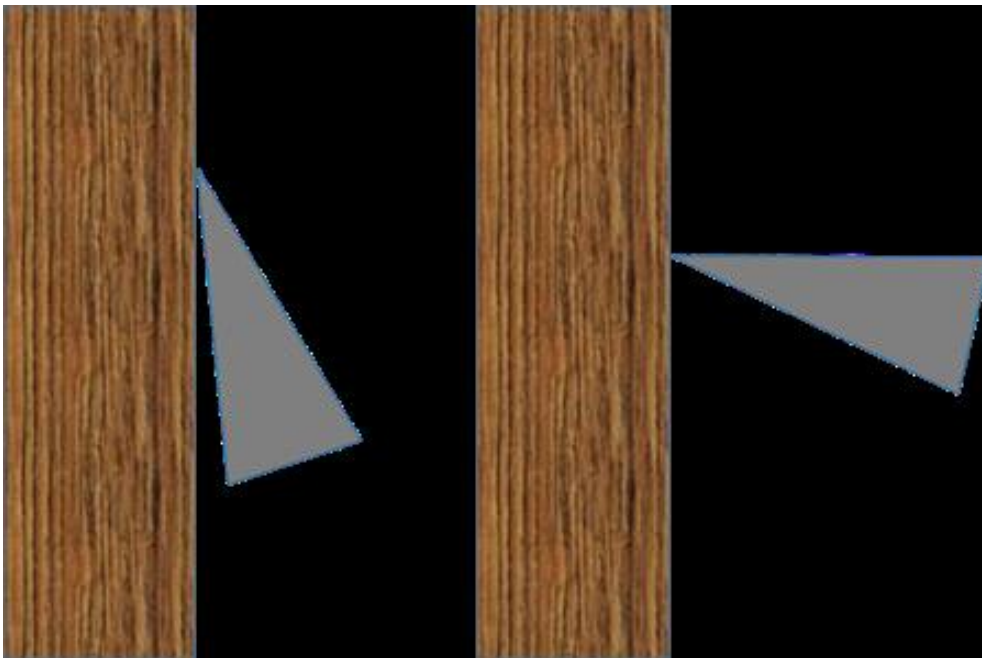


edge, which is the only place where they differ, we have to conclude that the two scrapers will produce exactly the same cut. Raffan wins.

So what does the negative rake buy us? Depending on what cut you are trying to make, it may mean being able to put the edge into position without as many contortions. The negative rake may allow you to use the tool flatter than a normal scraper, and can make it less likely that the tool shank will interfere with the rim.”

2. Cutting, Scraping, and Catching

“The picture below shows a tool (in gray) being presented to a piece of wood in two different positions. The situation on the left is ‘cutting’, where the edge of the tool is being presented with a small rake angle (the angle between the top of the tool and the wood). On the right, we are ‘scraping’, where there is a very high rake angle. (In between could be called ‘catching’, since a dig in is much more likely.) The difference between the two is in the dominant way the chips form, but there is some crossover. ‘Cutting’ chips will occasionally form when scraping, and ‘scraping’ chips will occasionally form when cutting.



When cutting, we are pushing the tool edge into the wood, then the wedge formed by the shape behind the edge is levering out chips. When scraping, we are hitting the wood with blunt force trauma to sever the wood fibers. This could be compared to cutting a 2x4 with a hammer (yes, it can be done), although a better model would be knocking small branches off the trunk of a tree using the poll of an axe. In either case, it will be easier and leave a better surface if we have a sharp tool.” **Thanks to Linda Ferber for recommending this article.**



IV. Monthly Meetings

A. August Membership Meeting

1. Pre Meeting



(Left) Dan Kluempke and Ken Kirscher look over wood to be raffled.



Steve Miller and Ken Hallberg closely examine a hollow form by Todd Williams.



Linda Ferber and Carolyn Allard are fascinated as well.

Note: Todd's hollow form consists of Norway pine coated with matt laquer and walnut coated with gloss laquer. A picture of the hollow form is in the Instant Gallery section of this newsletter (page 14).





A sizable crowd gathered for the meeting

IV. Monthly Meetings

A. August Membership Meeting

2. Group Purchase Opportunity



Bob Meyer is organizing a group purchase opportunity with Woodturners Wonders. The company provides lamps, CBN wheels, unique tools, and sanding supplies. Of particular interest is the RoloC sanding disc system as shown at the right. It consists of a stem attached to a drill, a mounting pad and a sanding disc. The disc is held to the mounting pad by a hook and loop arrangement. When stepping through grades of sandpaper, only the stem and mounting pads are changed between grades. There is a mounting pad and disc for each grade. The mounting pad



and the sanding disc are separated only when the disc is worn out. Because this hook and loop system is separated so few times, the sanding discs can be used for much longer times. Bob says that the Roloc system is the best he has ever used. He only gets disc separation when he presses too hard.

Product orders need to be in by August 14 and will be available at the September meeting.

IV. Monthly Meetings

A. August Membership Meeting

3. Main Presentation: Hollowing Calabash Bowls (Mike Hunter)

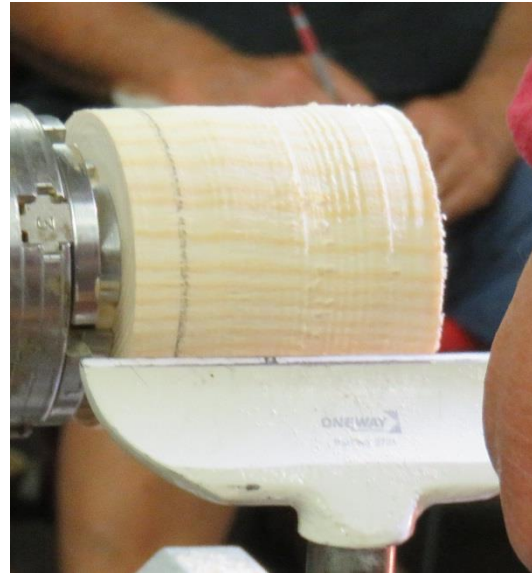


Mike started by sharing history and characteristics of the Calabash bowl. The primary characteristic is a round base with a large, gentle curve. The original design had no flat spot on the bottom, but today contemporary design allows a small flat spot. There are many design configurations. For example, one is the umeke laau in which the bowl is more tall than wide, and the palawa is more wide than high. The top of the bowl is never flared, and a lid may or may not be provided. The bowl is typically hollowed out of end grain. The bowls are often used to carry food and are typically placed in the sand when put down. In Hawaii, bowls were not simply utilitarian but maintained in some religious and spiritual stature. There was a sense of tribute and respect for the wood, the process of creation and receiving of the fruits of such a creation. The crafting of wooden bowls far exceeded the functional requirements needed to serve their purpose. Hawaiian bowls were made with meticulous attention to detail and refinement. Getting the shape and figure of the wood perfect was a primary objective. The finish of wooden bowls was also



highly refined and of great importance. The making a bowl was a long and careful procedure. Much of the craftsmanship in making Calabash bowls still resides in Hawaii.

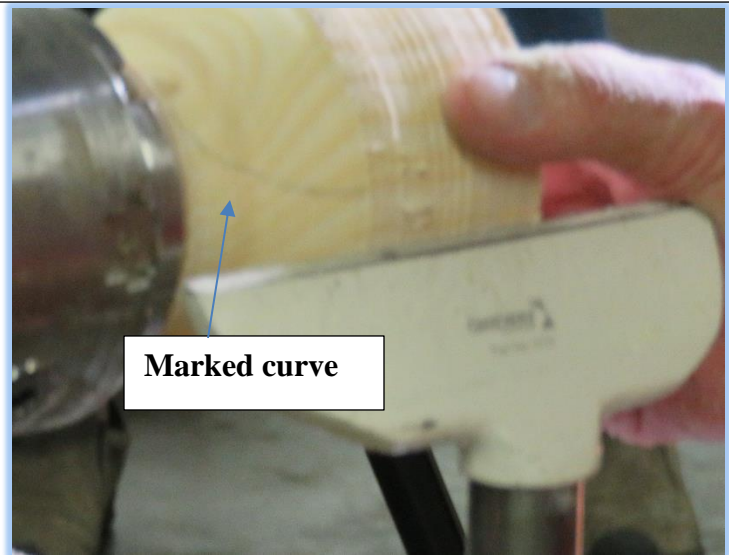
Mike submitted his early work to some Hawaiian craftsman. He was told it was a very good popcorn bowl! To his credit, he continued to improve his Calabash skillsets and today, makes a respectable bowl.

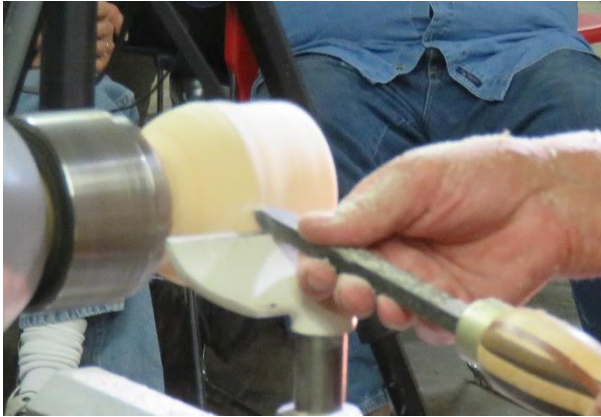


Mike starts with a piece of dry wood and marks a bottom line based on his design intent.

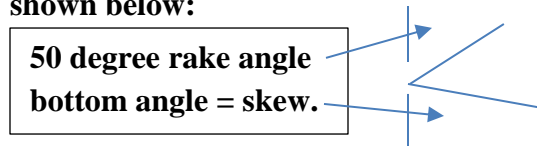


Mike uses a compass set to the bowl radius to mark a curve on the bottom. He uses this to determine his bottom curve... He needs to stop the rotation to check progress.

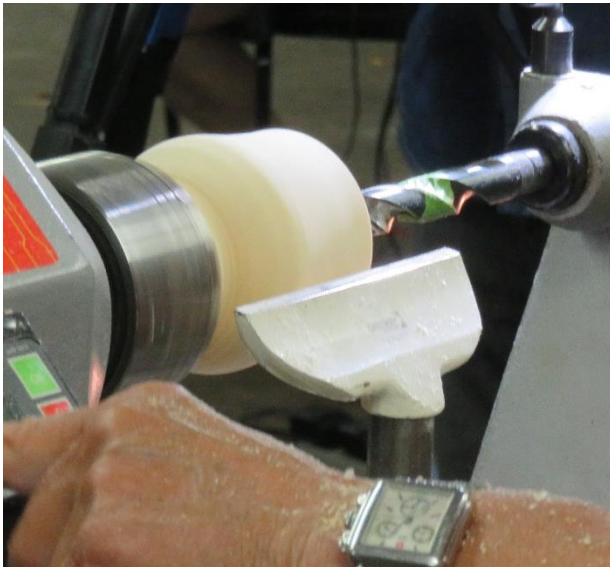




The OD is turned. Mike uses a Hunter “Mate Tool” first, and then finishes with a home made negative rake scraper. This scraper is made from a skew, is used on center, and the cutting edge is shown below:



Mike says that he likes this skew because it feels comfortable to hold and control. He could do the same with a normal scraper but he would have to hold it differently. (See page 4 normal versus negative rake scrapers)



Next, the inside is hollowed out. Mike uses a Hunter #5 Swan Neck tool for hollowing which leaves a good finish. This tool is to be run at a 45 degree angle. Mike likes to operate at about 1800-2000 rpm where he finds the tool cuts better. He says that “speed is your friend.” Mike likes to make the bowl wall about ¼”.





After a good presentation, there is time for questions and sharing.

IV. Monthly Meetings

A. August Membership Meeting

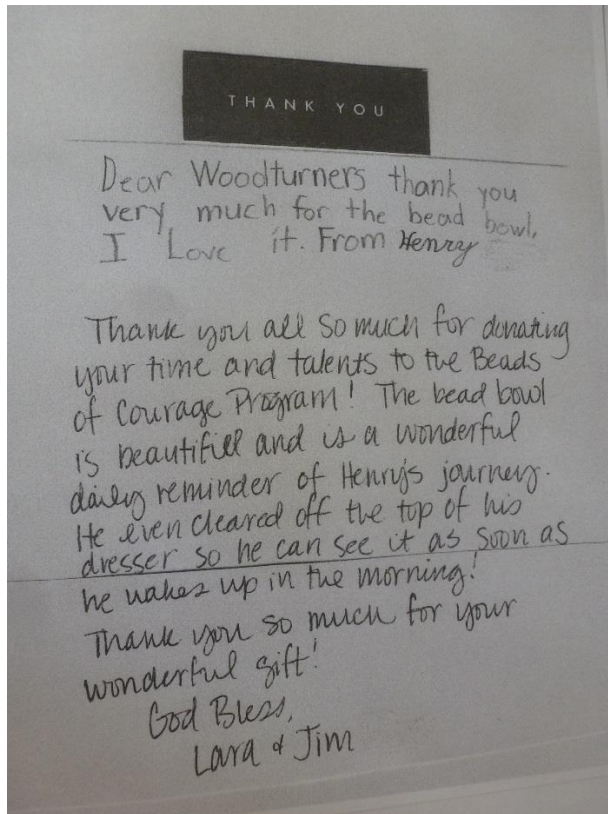
4. Beads of Courage



These toys and bowls have been donated in the months of July and August.



A note of appreciation from a young patient named Henry.



Thank you Diane Putz for providing these materials.

IV. Monthly Meetings

A. August Membership Meeting

5. Instant Gallery

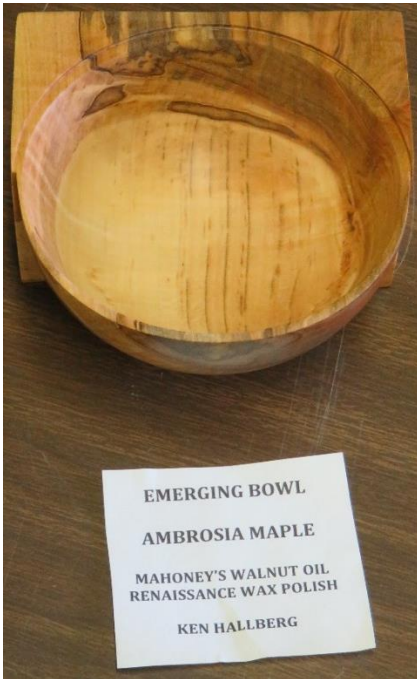


An overview of the instant gallery.





Hollow form by Todd Williams (See P. 6) Turned, carved, and painted by Linda Ferber.



Emerging bowl by Ken Hallberg



RoboScraper, a collaboration between Jim Jacobs and Lee Tourtelotte



IV. Monthly Meetings

A. August Membership Meeting

6. Challenge: Make something inspired by Sam Avellino

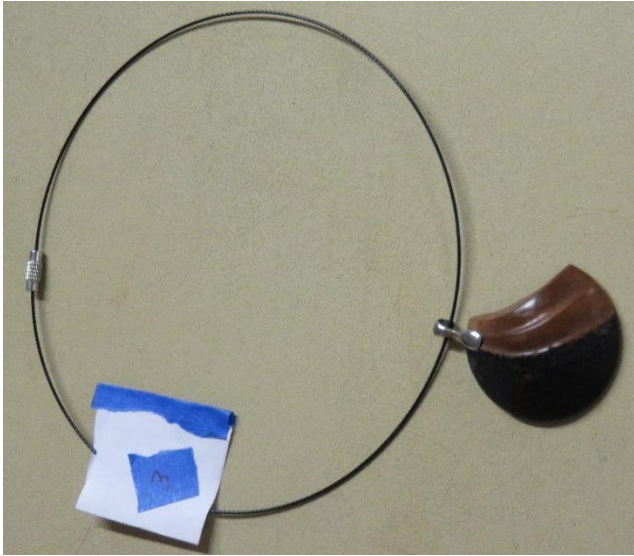


First Place Dan Larson.
Decorated bowl with finial on lid



Second place: Arden Griep.
Decorated bowl with handles





**Third Place: Linda Ferber.
Pendant**



**Fourth Place: George Martin.
Decorated bowl**

V. Area Meetings

A. Plymouth Area Meeting



Al Feist, Jerry Sitzer, and Avi Pelc share their views on turning-three of eight members at the Plymouth area August meeting.





Wayne Johnson followed our recommendation and did minimal turning on this elm bowl. Finishing with walnut oil brought out a beautiful configuration.



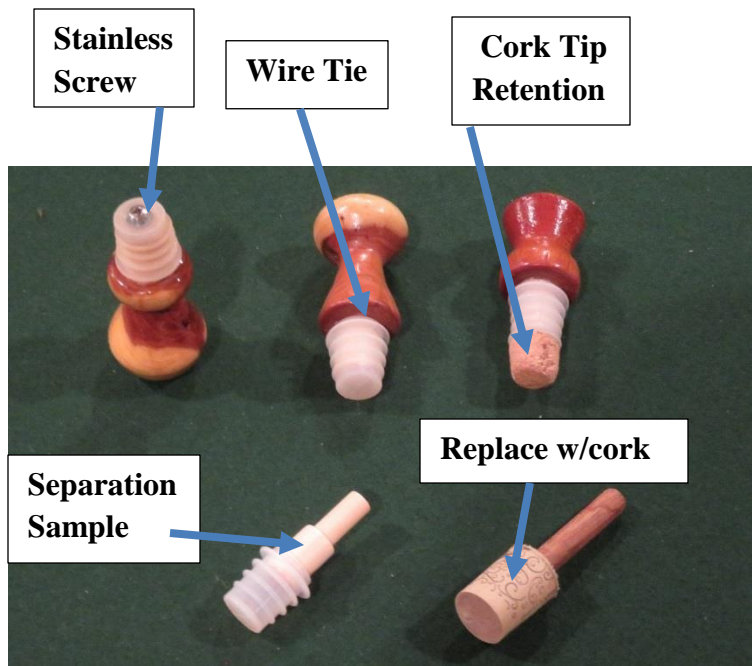
Wayne Johnson brought in a nice ash bowl that started out as a natural edge bowl.



Al Feist brought in his first bowl turned on his new Laguna 18" x 36" lathe! The bowl is oak.

Pete Bryant brought pictures of a crack and the crack repaired with CA and wood chips (see below before and after). It was claimed in an AAW article that painting with 50% nonwax shellac and 50% Denatured Alcohol would prevent staining. It worked! Others noted that they filled cracks with epoxy or wood glue and chips to avoid staining.





Pete Bryant brought in several alternatives to help retain the silicone seals on wine bottle stoppers (see lower left sample). The consensus was any cork is undesirable due to contamination from multiple use. The stainless screw is the best presented. It was recommended to get a low cost stainless steel screw in design from Ruth Niles or Penn State Industries as the best solution.

For hands on work, Steve Mages demonstrated sharpening of the scraper to Al Feist and Jerry Sitzer (below). At the right He demonstrated use of the scraper on a bowl under the watchful eye of Peter Withoff. Steve noted that he tends to run the scraper at low speed to minimize vibration.



VI. Chapter Classes

A. Sharpening Class



The monthly sharpening class for August was held as usual on a Wednesday night at Neil Robinette's shop in Brooklyn Park. Reid Zimmerman (Black Shirt) sharpens a tool, Gary Telega (left foreground) checks out a tool he just sharpened, and Tom Cameron works with Neil Robinette (pink shirt) in the rear. **Thanks to Rick Auge for the picture.**

Remember new members get a free sharpening class. Sign up on the chapter web page.

VI. Chapter Classes

B. Lidded Box Class



Mike Hunter taught this class. He notes that the class is an extension of his presentation on Calabash bowls at the August membership meeting. Here, Mike assists Roger Erickson on the hollowing process.





Mike was assisted by Bob Meyer here discussing a finer point with Dick Zawacki



Also assisting in teaching is Rick Auge here helping Dan Pennington get started.



Dan Ernst turns his box



Dick Hicks prepares to hollow his box.



VI. Chapter Classes

C. Natural Edge Bowl Class



The natural edge bowl class: taught by Bob Meyer, assisted by Rick Auge. Students: Ed Mielich, Dan Pennington, Shane Maki, Tom Mitbo, Dale Janson, John Traeger, Dick Hicks, John Rotschafer, Jessica Rotschafer, and Phil Peterson. **Thanks to Neil Robinette for the pictures.**



Bob Meyers showing Ed Mielich some tricks of the trade.



Dale Jansen concentrating while he turns the ID.



Tom Mitbo forms the outside of his bowl.

