



FEBRUARY 2017



Guest demonstrator Lyndal Anthony with one of several of his shop made turning tool mockups to illustrate the different types of grinding angles and as a visual aid as to how these tools work. At bottom, Lyndal demonstrates using a hatchet as a turning tool.



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AAW
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

FEBRUARY 1, 2007

PRESENT:

Vice President Barry Grill
Program director Mark Palma
Newsletter Editor Tom Leonard

Treasurer's Report: Members see web site

Membership Status: No report

High School Shops: Member Bob Hindel informed the board of a need to go into schools with shops that have lathes. Because of cutbacks in school aids many of these lathes are not being used. The group has been involved in guest teaching in high schools in the past.

UWEC Opportunity: Ron Bartz has contacted the UWEC Foundation but still has not received numbers of requested items - coaster sets, pens and acorns to be made from the Council Oak and the Kent State Memorial Crabapple wood.

Structured Training Classes: Still to be determined

Chainsaw Carving Event: Mark Palma will work with John DeRykere to come up with an overall plan for the August event.

Sponsorship ideas: Two suggestions - Farrell Equipment and Supply and Eau Claire Ford - looking for only \$250 each

Feed My People: John Layde will be taking donated bowls and other items to be auctioned.

Discussion:

Newly purchased carbide tools will need a place to store to keep the tool bits from being damaged.

Beginner classes needed - Mark expressed safety issues with the number of new people being allowed in the shop area when all lathes are going. Because of the influx of new people and some members using the tools on Saturday, there is a need to place some controls on their use by limiting the time on the tools possibly with a signup sheet. There has been a problem with mentoring new turners because there is not always a mentor for each turner and some mentors are trying to handle two persons. There is also a need to move the face shield hangers outside the shop area because the shields are over the turning lathes. ~~2000~~

February Demonstration

Guest Speaker Lyndal Anthony

Over the years Lyndal has been asked several common questions about turning tools:

1. Why am I getting tear out?
2. What tool angle is the best?
3. Which tool is the best?
4. What grind angle is the best?
5. What grind profile is the best?

Lyndal's presentation was answering these questions. Several of the most important considerations were:

People often do things without knowing why. Find out why, don't just accept. One should know how the tool works.



One should be observant of the wood grain. Are you turning with or against the grain?

One should know what type of cutting angle the tool has (positive, negative or zero) - it makes a difference in how it is used. A positive angle will grab the wood fibers, whereas the negative will pull the wood fibers.

A severe angled tool at 30 degrees turns worse than a less severe angle tool at 60 degrees.

Also in consideration is whether the tool scrapes, shears or slices. Scraping is a zero degree back and forth movement. Shearing is a cut at a 45 degree angle cut. Slicing is a 90 degree angle cut.

Grinding angles vary and angles on tools can be changed. One point he made was that if a tool was not working for you at one angle then change the angle and see if it works better. To demonstrate this Lyndal had a hatchet that he had ground to an angle so he could use it as a skew. He then turned out a very small top using the hatchet blade.

Much of Lyndal's talk and demonstration involved showing and using the various tools and grind angles of these tools and demonstrating using these tools closed, half open and closed to the flute.

This demonstration write up does not do justice to Lyndal's demonstration. It was clearly told with humor and contained much information about tools and their use, too much to be presented here.

Questions Asked:

What's the best tool?

Answer - Whatever works. Lyndal has over 100 turning tools and only uses 6 on a regular basis.

What do you do with a problem tool?

Answer - Change your turning technique. He cites that he obtained a Hunter tools and didn't find it helpful and put it aside. Several years later he retried the tool and it worked very well. The reason was a change in turning technique over the years.

What is your favorite finish?

Answer - Depends on the piece. He uses all types from matte finishes to acrylic artist paint to gloss polyurethane to oils to duel air brushing. ~~888~~



WOODTURNING TOOLS

Tom Leonard

After hearing the presentation by Lyndal Anthony I am again struck by the sense of a knowledge void. Although I can tell the basic difference of woodturning gouges I have never felt particularly intrigued enough to learn the variable details of the tools such as angles, flute size, width, burrs and the myriad of details that Lyndal and many of our members so easily expound.

As I see it, there are individuals that naturally learn all these differences. Alas, I am not one of them and I suspect there are other members who also do not naturally absorb these variables. So my reason for bringing this topic up is to assure those of like mind that it isn't really necessary to know all that detail.

So, if one need not know all those details - unless one has a fantastic memory and a real psychological need to know all those variables - what does one need to know to be a successful wood turner? The answer as I see it is to know the basics but go beyond if you feel it is necessary for further development.

Here is a quick rundown of the types of basic tools and their use:

Roughing Gouge - a wide fluted gouge used to initially round a wooden spindle, and to roughly shape it. Generally not intended for cutting end grain due to the large cut it takes and the relatively weak tang connecting the blade to the handle. Unsafe for making bowls or any faceplate work.

Spindle Gouge or Detail Gouge - a shallow fluted gouge used to create details on spindles, including beads (raised portions of the turning typically semi-circular in cross section) and coves (relieved portions of the turning).

Bowl Gouge - a deep fluted gouge used to turn the outside and inside of bowls and vessels. Often has a thicker shaft and longer handle than a spindle gouge because it has to cut farther away from the tool rest and deal with the forces of turning a large bowl. Sometimes called 'long and strong' gouge.

Skew Chisel - a wide, steeply pointed chisel with the edge running at an angle to the length of the tool. Used to smooth flat spindles, cut beads, and add details. Skew chisels are only used on spindle work (never on faceplate work) and are honed after sharpening to create a razor edge.

Parting Tool - a pointed tool used to separate (part off) work from the lathe, and to create a straight edge separating large and small diameter sections - wide parting tools also called bedans are used to create evenly sized spindle sections.

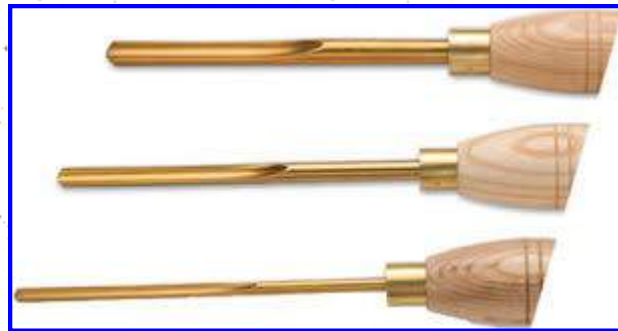
Hollowing Tool - many different types of tools used to cut out the deep sections of steep bowls, vases and hollow vessels. Often with very long handles, to maintain enough leverage when working in a deep vessel, far away from the hand rest.

Scraper - a tool that scrapes the wood fibres instead of cutting - these are used to smooth off wooden items cut with other tools, and to shape items that are not possible or difficult to shape with gouges. A sharp scraper has a burr at the edge which cuts the wood, only a dull scraper actually scrapes.

Text came from article on Wikipedia under Woodturning.



Roughing Gouges



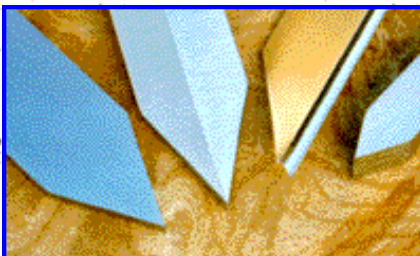
Spindle Gouges



Bowl Gouge



**Bowl Gouge and Spindle Gouges
with a Detail Gouge**



Parting Tools



Scraper



Hollowing Tools

Meeting Discussions

Call for **donations of bowls** for Empty Bowls event. John Layde will take what bowls there are and deliver them to Feed My People. Last day to bring bowls will be the 1st of March club meeting. The event is set for March 2. More donations of better quality items are needed for auction at the event.

Mark Palma brought up **needs for the shop**: mid range sandpaper (180-220) and for faceplates in the 3 - 4 inch range.

Ron Bartz commented that he is in contact with the **UWEC Foundation** and is trying to establish the number of turned items they will want - coaster sets, pens and acorns.

Beginner Classes are being planned for March or April. Bob Eberhardt who is heading up this has had recent knee surgery and date of classes may be further out. The purpose of the classes will be to teach tools and how to use them, safety and getting people new to turning to turn several small items including a small bowl.

Shop Issues - Because of the influx of new people wanting to turn and new people inquiring on Saturday Coffee and Chips, it has become apparent that the group needs to establish some rules for the shop. Some items discussed was safety rules, eye protection, possible limits on each person's time on a lathe and possible sign up for each tool use. There are too many people being allowed in our shop area at one time and some limits need to be made. It is only an accident waiting to happen and the board is concerned. ♪♪

SHOW AND TELL



Mark Palma with lidded box from scrape lumber. Box has brass knob that Mark tuned on his lathe. A watch face is hidden in the lid.



Mark Palma with another lidded box of scrape lumber that was finished with a bicolor dye mixed with the action of sandpaper.



Mark Palma with a dye board demonstrating vibrancy, transparency and absorption of dyes.



Bruce Trimble with his first turned bowl.



John Layde with a segmented bowl made of scrape lumber.



Don Hindel with a set of candle holders made of recovered spindles from torn down old Iowa capital.



Dave Messick with a yarn bowl made for 4 balls instead of one.



Barry Grill with a fish net made of Walnut. The unique thing about this piece was the strips of wood were soaked overnight instead of steamed.



Barry Grill with a segmented cake platter made up of African Mahogany. Barry emphasized the precise angle cutting of this piece.



Barry Grill with a natural edge Walnut bowl that bark loosened when drying and Barry had to Ca glue to save the bark.

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Debark SAFELY with a Hand Adze

by Bob Heltman

Once upon a time, about 20 plus years ago, I had a forge and became quite interested in blacksmithing. Pounding on red hot steel, especially on a hot day, gives one a deeper appreciation for what our forefathers did in developing our country! At around the same time, I was beginning in woodturning, and forged a number of gouges and scrapers. Two related tools I developed were to aid in larger scale wood carving; these were hand adzes. As it turned out, I became more interested in woodturning, and the adze pictured in Figure 1 was ideal for removing bark from the center of half-logs prior to pinning a log in place between Steb center in headstock and the tailstock.

There were, and are, two approaches to mounting a half log. One is to trust in the firmness of the bark, which often leads to the log coming loose. After a few such accidents, particularly if damage to toes occurs, the second way is to use a hand axe and remove bark in the center of the log. The problem here is that the downward swing can come close to your thumb as your hand steadies the log!



Figure 1. Hand adze that the author made for stripping bark from a piece to be turned.

When using the hand adze, one is facing the full bark side of the half-log. If necessary, the other hand can steady the log and tends to naturally hold the log at its upper left, out of harm's way. A few carving strokes with the adze gets one down to the wood itself which is a safer grabbing point for the tailstock's center. Figure 2 shows my two adzes.



Figure 2. This photo shows the author's two adzes.

I tend to use the longer end of the adze's blade on the left. The "funny stuff" on the handles is a gripping material that forms to hand-fit by using a hot air gun. (Sorry, source was lost years ago.) Handles were carved on a shaving horse, with the steel heads held in place using epoxy and a carriage bolt, on the left one, and a wedge and epoxy on the right one. Figure 3 shows the heads.



Figure 3. This photo shows the heads of the two adzes of Figure 2.

I tape-wrapped the one handle near the head to cushion against striking wood when sculpting.

In 22 years of use, these tools have stood up perfectly well. While these heads were forged, you can make a very functional adze head with most any piece of flat steel that is about 1/4" thick by 1 1/2" wide, and 4 to 5 inches long. Just drill a good-sized hole in the center and sharpened the edges "lopsided" with the cutting edge at bottom. See Figure 4 to get the idea.



Figure 4. Side view of the head on one of the adzes.

The angle of attack at the cutting edge can be adjusted by grinding, to where the adze functions comfortably within your normal chopping stroke.

Another point concerns the handle. Naturally, a woodturner will be tempted to turn the handle. HOWEVER, it is important that the adze NOT twist when striking wood! This is more likely to happen when your arm is tired, like when you have bucked some logs, split them, and are in a hurry to mount a half-log for green bowl turning. Twisting can result in dangerous glancing blows which may not be appreciated by near body parts! SO, turn the handle off center so it is oblong. Wrapping it with tape that provides extra friction between hand and handle is also a good idea. Ash or hickory are ideal woods.

An adze may not normally be considered a woodturning tool, but if one fells one's own trees, bucks the logs, paints the ends to ward off checking, and splits the logs lengthwise for bowl blanks, THEN the hand adze becomes as, or more important than, a chain saw.

By the way, sometimes a log will have some loose bark that can fly off dangerously. The hand adze is a fast and ideal way to remove some or all the bark. Since dust, sand, and grit get trapped in rough bark, and will erode the edges of your gouges more quickly, removing all bark first is often a good idea. Besides, guys never have all the tools they need. Make yourself a hand adze. You will be glad you did. ♪♪

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Meetings are first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. Open house—Coffee and Chips - second Saturday of the month from 8 am to 12 pm

Meeting Dates and Demonstrations

March 1—Tom Leonard—Pens A to Z

April 5—Wayne Dubberke—Embellish Your Turning with Carving

May 3—Mark Palma—A Fresh Look At Carbide Tools

June 7—John DeRykere—Natural Edge Bowl

July 5—Jeff Fagan—Chips and Tunes

August 2—Ron Bartz—Castable Acrylics

Open House-Coffee and Chips Dates

March 11

April 8

May 13

June 10

July 8

August 12

Meetings and Coffee and Chips are held in the Eau Claire Insulation building at 2125 Starr Ave on the northeast side of Eau Claire, Wi.

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