

TURNING Threads

July 2024



Our group's second top spinning challenge drew much interest.



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July Demonstration
Bob Eberhardt demonstrated hollowing using the Jamieson Hollowing System.



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I hope this finds everyone able to enjoy the summer weather. We had a good turnout for our July meeting. It is a very busy time of year. I did the demo on hollowing using the Jamieson hollowing system. I talked about

the grain direction and cutting end grain. There are several tools on the market for hollowing end grain. Some of the ones discussed were Oneway Termite tool, several types of carbide cutters, a spindle gouge with a back cut, scrapers, and systems with a support system like the Jamieson system. I demoed the laser pointer for judging wall thickness etc. Overall I think the demo was OK!

The open house this month was moved to My Cabin for the annual club picnic. It was well attended and everyone had a good time.

We had a booth at Paint the Town event in Menomonie on Saturday July 20th. It is a great way to get our name out there and show some of our projects.

We will be having our Learn to Turn event at the annual U.S. Open Chainsaw Sculpture Championship in Carson Park the first weekend in August so keep that in mind! We will be setting up August 1st. If you are able to assist for any of the time slots, Please contact Tom Leonard.

Have fun turning! Bob

Monthly Meetings

First Wednesday of the month

Board Meeting at 6:00 pm

Social Hour at 6:00 pm

Meeting and Demonstration

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Open House

Second Saturday of the month

8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Members and interested persons may contact the Chippewa Valley Woodturners Guild by email at: woodturnercvvg@gmail.com

A Better Carbide Tool And Sander?

Sanding, sanding and more sanding. Not the most revered word in the woodturning world. The professionals always tell us to keep your tools sharp and cut with various gouges of different sizes to scrap, skew, fine cut, pull cut and push cut to get a finish needing little or no sanding. Of course, the wood might just have other ideas so that nice piece of firewood you may have had high expectations may better be used for fire wood. Not all is lost or as dreary as this. We humans tend to triumph over the toughest situations.

I decided 2 years ago to stop turning bowls for a variety of reasons including sanding issues. I was not very good at fine turning or sanding.

Recently, I became aware of some re-invented carbide tools. I did mention these in an Editor Musings from December 2023. These new carbides are twice as big as the regular carbides and the handle and shank make it a very heavy tool. As you can imagine these tools are very aggressive if not handled correctly. This revised my interest in bowl turning if for nothing more than a demonstration or Editor Musings.

These carbide tools are called Simple Scrapers I, II, and III and made by Harrison Specialties L.L.C. in Ramsey, Minnesota (<https://www.simplewoodturningtools.com/>). I eventually bought four shanks and handles. Scraper I shank end is straight and uses a straight or straight negative rake or oval or oval negative rake carbide bit (I bought 2 of these shanks so I would not have to change bits). Scraper II is a left-angled end shank and Scraper III is a right-angled end shank. Both II and III can use any of the 4 types of bits.

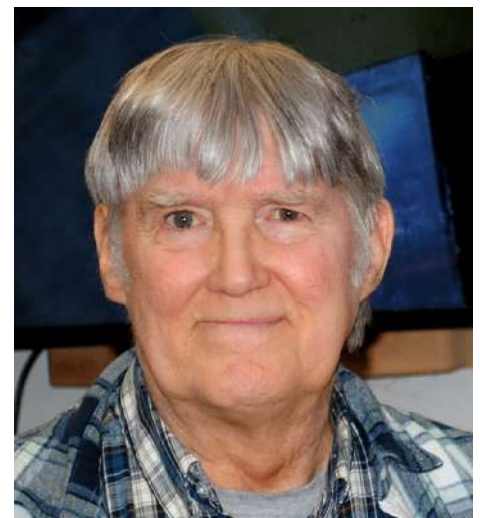
What has this got to do with sanding? The angled shank is designed to get a better cut inside the bowl as well as getting a deeper curved lip to a bowl. Technically a better tool than the smaller straight shank negative rake carbide tool in getting a finer cut to the inside of the bowl.

At this point, I have not been able to utilize the full abilities of the angled II and III scrapers for the inside of the bowl. Using the angled scrapers with fine cuts did result in a smoother surface. The straight scraper with an oval negative bit does wonders to smooth out a slightly punky areas on the outside and inside of the bowl. Note: I only turn dry blanks.

But by using these new tools it gave me the opportunity to experiment with sanding and finishing a bowl in ways I had never tried before. Most of the bowls I have done lately are smooth and needs little sanding but it is the punky areas and end grain roughness that still need to be smoothed out more.

I obtained a passive sander made by Dura Gold (<https://tcpglobal.com/products/dur-bowl-set>) which can also be used on a drill. The sander turns with the speed of the lathe. I have found it gives a much better result than hand sanding. Depending on the surface roughness, I will start with 80 grit, go to 120, 240 and finish with 320. After wiping out the wood dust, I put on a layer of Ca glue. At this point I can re-sand the bowl with the high grit passive sander or hand sand. I prefer to hand sand using a high grit sand paper like a 500 or 600 so the sanding can be more aggressively applied in the problem areas. Sanding dust is once more removed and I apply either Aussie Oil or a butcher block finish. I re-sand rough areas again and by now the surface will be getting as smooth as it could get. Then I reapply the final finish.

The Aussie Oil gives a shinier finish. Whereas, butcher block is more subdued. It is advised to burnish the butcher block finish with 0000 steel wool to shine the finish somewhat, but applied aggressively it will remove some of the finish.



There was one other sanding tool I have experimented with. It is called a sanding cup and is different from sanding mops by its' shape. I stumbled on this item on You Tube. Apparently, it is a unique item sold only by StockRoom Supply in Wainfleet, Ontario Canada. (www.stockroomsupply.com). Its' uniqueness is where the arbor of the mandrel cup is located. Mops are flat and using them inside a bowl can cause damage to a surface by the arbor. The cup mop arbor is within a cup of sanding strips. I only got the 220 grit cup but the cup mop can be used several times. A bit spendy in the \$25 range with a \$20 mailing for the one cup but seems to be promising.

Conclusion: Simple Scrapers do give a better finish and various sanding techniques will add to a better finish. My problem with these Simple Scrapers is the size of the bits. These are often too big for some situations and I fall back on the regular sized carbide tools to close this gap. Though some professional turners can turn almost anything with one tool, I can not see the fun in that when the average turner has so many choices to experiment with. Difference between a professional and amateur I suppose. Tom Leonard



Top: The passive sanding tool.

Top Right: The sanding cup.

Bottom Left: All 4 of the Simple Scraper turning tools.

Bottom Right: Comparison of the Simple Scraper oval shaped negative rake bit and the more familiar smaller radial negative bit.



PAINT THE TOWN EVENT



CVWG members Jerome Brown, Dan Brandner, Jerry Lilly and Dennis Ciesielski represent the Guild in a booth at the annual Menomonie Wisconsin Paint the Town event.



It was my first time at the event. We had 4 people there so we had time go on individual walkabouts and check out the other booths. We had a lot of people stop by our little table, and the spinning tops brought a lot of kids in. Following our inquiries and dialogues with them, we did hand out quite a few brochures about our guild and also recommended they come to visit us at the Chainsaw Carving Championship at Carson Park in two weeks. A lot of people inquired about buying things, so that might be something we could look at in the future.

Reported by Dan Brandner

Woodturning on Vacation

When I was traveling out west, the Black Hills, Yellowstone, etc. I stopped by Sam Angelo's shop in Worland, WY and had the privilege of meeting The Wyoming Woodturner. While, there, he taught me how to chase threads which is one of his specialties. I spent a couple of hours there and we discussed his YouTube channel and how he made videos and also how he photographed turned objects. He cored a dish out of a Box Elder blank and I took it home to finish up. It was a lot of fun meeting him and getting to know him a bit.

Rich Thelen



CVWG Coming Events

The United States Chainsaw Sculpture in August (2-4) at Carson Park in Eau Claire.

MISCELLANEOUS



Woodturning

Mat Ladwig · 23h · 🌐

Ok. So I had this crazy idea today to make a pen with a captive ring. I've never seen one done and it took me 3 attempts, but finally got it to work. It's surprisingly well balanced in spite of the additional length. What do you all think?



Recommendations

TECHNIQUE (Part 1)

- Tie back long hair, bangs, and beards.
- Do not wear gloves.
- Do not wear loose clothing, jewelry, or any dangling objects that may catch on rotating parts.
- When using a faceplate, be certain the workpiece is solidly mounted with stout screws (#10 or #12 sheet metal screws as a minimum). Do not use dry wall or deck screws, they are brittle and break easily.
- Be certain the workpiece is mounted firmly between the headstock drive center and tailstock center when turning between centers,
- Before starting the lathe, rotate your workpiece completely by hand to make sure it is clear of tool rest, banjo, and lathe bed. Be certain that the workpiece turns freely. Ensure the blank is held securely by the drive center, faceplate, or chuck.
- Always check the speed of the lathe before turning it on. Ensure the lathe speed is compatible with the size of the blank. Use slower speeds for larger diameters or rough pieces and higher speeds for smaller diameters and pieces that are balanced. Always start a piece at a slower speed until the workpiece is balanced. If the lathe is shaking or vibrating, lower the speed. If the workpiece vibrates, always stop the machine to verify why and correct the problem.

Source: [20200730Safety is Your Responsibility replacement Final.pdf](#)
(woodturner.org)

Meetings are first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm.
Open house is the second Saturday of the month from
8 am to 12 pm

Meeting Dates and Demonstrations

August 7—Duplicate Spindles by Ron Bartz

September 4—Vacuum Chuck by Joe Nycz

October 2—Sphere Cutting Tool by Ron Bartz

November 6—Ringed Christmas Trees by Dan Brandner

December 4 — Turning Antler Pens by Tom Leonard

January 8—Not Yet Determined

May Open House Date

August 10 from 8:00 am to 12:00pm. If coming after 10:00, please inform us through the web site the night before at: woodturnercvvg@gmail.com. Meetings and Open House are held in the Eau Claire Insulation building at 1125 Starr Ave on the northeast side of Eau Claire, WI. Enter driveway to next to railroad tracks. Look for the meeting sign. No sign—No meeting.

Next Month

Duplicate Spindles

Ron Bartz



Trees are a marvelous resource for providing various types of medical treatments and in many cases provide food.

Unusual Trees of the World

The tastiest tree

Sweet birch (*Betula lenta*)

Native range: North America

Conservation status: Least Concern

A fixture of the hilly Appalachian woodlands, the sweet birch offers several edible options for the hungry hiker. Its bark can be eaten raw, its twigs can be used to make tea and birch beer can be brewed from its sap.



The pain reliever

White willow (*Salix alba*)

Native range: Europe, Asia

Conservation status: Least Concern

Ancient peoples knew that white willow bark was effective in relieving pain, but it wasn't until the 19th century that researchers isolated the key compound, salicylic acid, which today is used to make aspirin.



The medicine tree

Ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*)

Native range: China

Conservation status: Endangered

The tenacious ginkgo has been around since the dinosaurs — making its debut in the fossil record some 200 million years ago. The tree produces beautiful, fan-shaped leaves that have become a staple of traditional Chinese medicine.



The cancer fighter

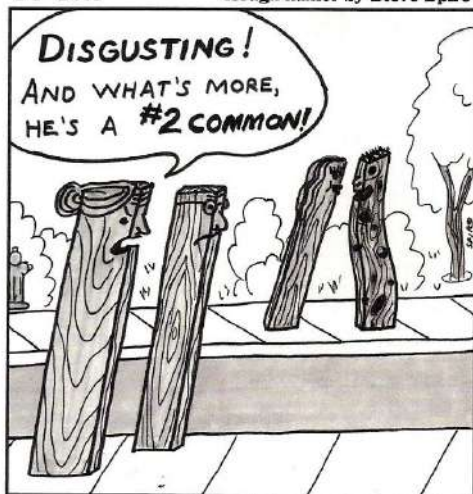
Pacific yew (*Taxus brevifolia*)

Native range: Canada, United States

Conservation status: Near Threatened

Though its foliage is poisonous and its fruit sometimes deadly, the Pacific yew can be a life-saver. In the 1970s, researchers isolated the compound paclitaxel — an important cancer medication — from the tree's bark.





WOODSHOP NEWS March 2008



THEAWKWARDYETI.COM

Previous Demonstrations

June 2024 Turning Tops

by Dan Brandner

May 2024 Turning Plywood

by John Layde

April 2024 Chasing Threads

by Tom Spielmann

March 2024 Shaker Pegs

by Dan Brandner

February 2024 Wet/Dry Wood Tips

by Barry Grill

January 2024 Bottle Stoppers

by Joe Nycz

December 2023 Christmas Ornaments

by Bob Eberhardt

November 2023 Wands

by Paul Meske

October 2023 Basket Weave Illusion

by John Layde

September 2023 Tenon Pens and Buttons

by Tom Leonard

August 2023 Tool Handles

by Ron Bartz

July 2023 Coring

by Bob Eberhardt

Previous Pen Kits and Woods

June 2024 Kirandy

for Jazz Bolt

May 2024 Lacebark Elm

for Exemplar / Professor pen

April 2024 Hard Rock Maple

for Dura Click Slim pen

March 2024 Black Chacate

for Cyclone pen

February 2024 Honduran Rosewood

for Medical pen

January 2024 Sycamore

for PMK-3 pen

December 2023 Orange Agate

for Ultra Cigar pen

November 2023 Sindora Burl

for Saxa pen

October 2023 Cambodian Ormosia

for Button Click pen

September 2023 English Yew

for Yari Click pen

August 2023 Lauro Preto

for Diamond Knurl pen

July 2023 Limba

for Aero pen



Bob Eberhardt had the groups' annual picnic at his family's cottage in Colfax. This land has been in his family since his grandfather bought the place. As you can see by the pictures Bob keeps the grounds immaculate and has a very beautiful cottage on the inside and outside. His brother and two sisters have land next to Bob's of which the brother and one sister live permanently on their land.





Plenty of food and conversation was had by all who attended.





Here an adventurous group of members go on the famous four mile tour complete with plenty of mosquitoes. Bob did warn us about that and he was totally on target. We spent more time swatting mosquitoes than observing the scenery but we had a laughing good time anyway .





A highlight was the display of turnings by the various members to show how creative our members can be.

It was a wonderful time with lots of laughs and comradery.



Jamieson System of Hollowing

Bob Eberhardt

Definition: The Jamieson System and others systems allow for greater control over the cutting tool by being attached to a metal frame which holds the cutting tool and allows back and forth control. More control may be accomplished with a steady rest tool.

There are many types of turning hollowing system but Bob decided to buy the Jamieson System after he said it was demonstrated by Jamieson for our group. At first Bob had problems with it but he made some adjustments to the system to suit his turning.

The primary problem with hollowing is that it is end grain turning which is harder to do than long grain turning.

Using a gouge to start the turning can be difficult or even disastrous. To start, a

turner must drill a starter hole with a drill bit. Bob uses a push drill and forgoes the drill chuck on the foot stock.

After establishing the first drilled hole one can go to larger drill bits or Forstner bits. When using a Forstner bit, establish a tapered hole with a spindle gouge so the Forstner bit can fit into and connect to the center of the blank. Start with a small Forstner bit and increase bit size until maximum width of blank is reached.

Bob pointed out two types of turning tools for cutting the inside of a hollow form if a hollowing system is not used. One is called a Termite cutter or a Ring cutter. The second is a hook cutter. Bob prefers the hook cutter. However, the Jamieson system uses a different ended cutter on a straight bar.

Essential in the hollowing system is the use of a depth laser. The laser light shows you on the outside of the bowl where the cutting edge is located. When the laser light starts elongating on the curved outside surface of the bowl, you are closer to the outside edge and a thinner bowl.

Some caveats: Not all woods are ideal for hollowing because it is an end grain cut but Bob said Cherry seems to be the better wood. These hollowing systems are limited to larger lathes. Avoid wood with piths for hollowing.

Reported by Tom Leonard



Bob setting up the Jamieson System of Hollowing



Bob demonstrates to members how a depth laser works . This involved setting the laser to a certain depth and Bob moved the hollowed blank back and forth to show how the laser dot elongates after reaching the desired depth.





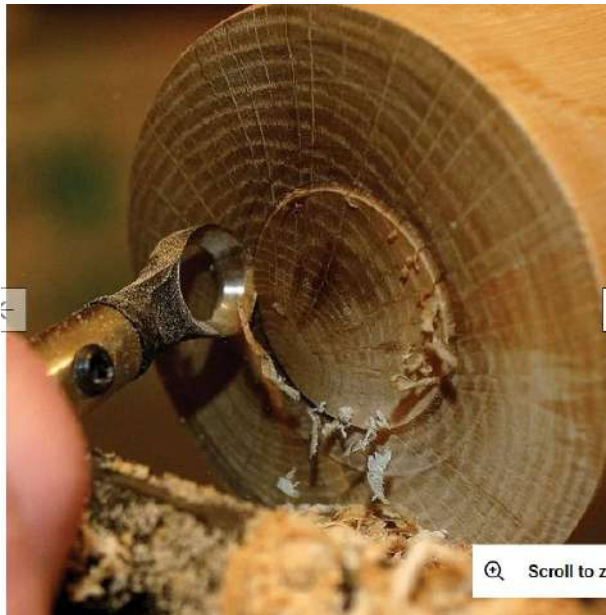
Top Left: The hollowing bit that Bob uses.

Middle Left: A Termite or Ring hollowing tool.

Middle right: Closeup of the Termite tool.

Bottom Left: A carbide bit hook tool.

Bottom Right: Another variety of Hook tool.



Wood, Wood and More Wood

The CVWG is certainly fortunate to have a plentiful supply of wood for members.



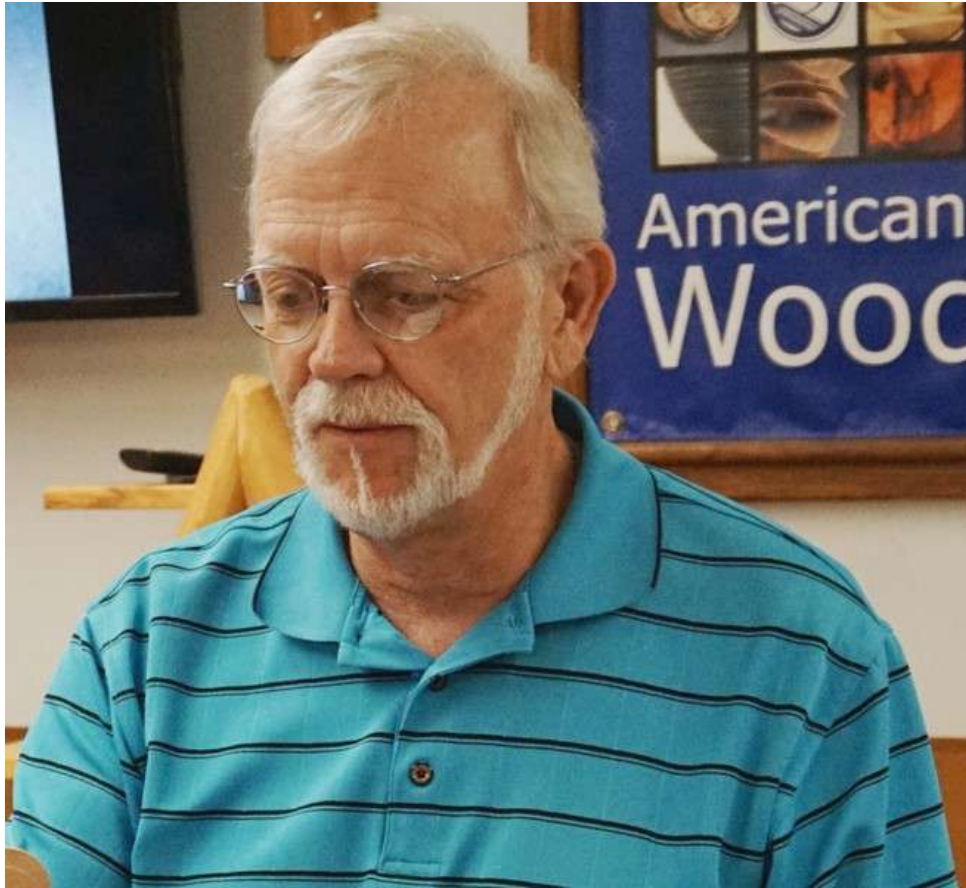
Grayson Schwartz



Grayson came through with his own vision of tops in some unusual shapes.



Dan Brandner



Dan Brandner made tops from large to small. Great variety.



Joe Nycz



Joe made many tops using 17 varieties of wood.



Paul Meske



Paul made a variety of tops in dazzling colors.



Henry Troost



Henry made a variety of spinning tops.
Some with colorful finishing.



John Mueller



John made a large bowl of Spalted Birch.



Bob Eberhardt



Bob cored a White Ash Burl and had 3 nice bowls with beautiful burl characteristics.

Bob also had a top that was able to spin upside down. Really good balance in this top.



Bob Eberhardt



Bob had other Cherry burls to turn and the results could be winners in any contest. Takes my breath away to look at them.



Photos for Show and Tell and Gallery provided by
Dan Brandner and Tom Leonard

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE



Above: Sue Mohr and Barry Grill look on as Henry Troost demonstrates the spinning of his tops

Below: Judges Jayne Kulberg and Barry Grill discuss the possible winners.



Top spinning winners for longest spin was Grayson Schultz for his bell shape top and Joe Nycz for his second longest spin made of Texas Ebony.

Common Name(s): Texas Ebony

Scientific Name: Ebenopsis ebano

Distribution: Southern Texas and eastern Mexico

Tree Size: 20-30 ft (6-9 m) tall, 1-2 ft (.3-.6 m) trunk diameter

Color/Appearance: Heartwood is a dark reddish (sometimes purplish) brown to nearly black. Pale yellow sapwood is clearly demarcated from heart

wood. Heartwood ages to almost black.

Grain/Texture: Grain can be irregular or wild. Has a fine, uniform texture with a very good natural luster.

Endgrain: Diffuse-porous; large pores in no specific arrangement, few to moderately numerous; solitary and radial multiples of 2-3 heartwood gum deposits (reddish brown) common; growth rings indistinct; narrow rays not visible without lens, spacing normal; parenchyma vasicentric, lozenge, and confluent.

Rot Resistance: Reported to be very durable regarding decay resistance.

Workability: Can be difficult to work on account of its density, but turns superbly, and able to take a very high natural polish.

Odor: No characteristic odor.

Allergies/Toxicity: Besides the standard health risks associated with any type of wood dust, no further health reactions have been associated with Texas Ebony. See the articles Wood Allergies and Toxicity and Wood Dust Safety for more information.

Pricing/Availability: Not commercially harvested for lumber, small pieces of Texas Ebony can sometimes be found for sale on a very limited basis for hobbyist and specialty applications. Knots, checks, and other deformities are common in larger pieces. Expect prices to be very high for a domestic species.

Sustainability: This wood species is not listed in the CITES Appendices, and is reported by the IUCN as being a species of least concern.

Common Uses: Knife handles, inlay, fine furniture, turned objects, and other small, specialty wood items.

Comments: In addition to Desert Ironwood, Texas Ebony might be considered one of the only "exotic" hardwoods that's native to the United States.

Though it's not a true ebony in the *Diospyros* genus, it's perhaps the only native wood that's dark enough to serve as a respectable ebony substitute. (And, like most respectable ebony substitutes such as Katalox or Wenge, it's also very expensive.)

Related Species:

None available.

Source: [Wood Database: Texas Ebony](#)

PEN KIT OF THE MONTH

Pen kit this month is a Mini Sketch Pencil. There is also a Deluxe Sketch Pencil that is slightly bigger (an 11mm tube vs. a 8mm tube) which the pencil can be changed to a pen.

Exotic blanks says of the Mini Sketch Pencil *“This is a shorter and thinner version of the popular 5.6mm lead sketch pencil. Enjoy the convenience and durability of this compact heavy duty pencil at home, shop, studio, or work. The pen features an unbreakable 3mm lead, a precision collet mechanism, a single 8mm tube design, a built-in sharpener, and an attractive clip Includes a 90 mm length of 3mm lead!”*

Exotic Blanks says of the Deluxe Sketch Pencil *“The Deluxe Sketch Pen & Pencil Combo Kit in Black Ti is rugged yet refined, making it ideal for artists, woodworkers, and executives. This design is perfect for those who prefer a wider and more comfortable writing instrument. The kit includes the same quality 5.6mm pencil mechanism as the PSI Workshop/Sketch pencil but with updated styling and PSI's exclusive 5.6mm mini-pen insert. With this "combo" insert, you can effortlessly switch from pencil to ballpoint pen.”*

Cost for Mini Sketch Pencil is \$7.95, Bushings are \$5.95, 8mm drill bit is \$4.50, and a package of 3 black 3mm pencil leads for \$2.50 (no color leads offered). Cost of the Deluxe Sketch Pencil is \$10.95, bushings are \$5.95, black 5.6mm lead package is \$1.95, 3 color 5.6mm package is \$2.45. Exotic Blanks had no 11m drill bits. An amazon offering for a Brad point 11mm is \$6.99.

Texas Ebony



The pencil below at the top is made of Ailanthus. This pencil is the old type of sketch pencil. Also notice that the new sketch pencil lead is flat not pointed but refills are pointed.

Ailanthus



Antler



Camo Acrylic



Antler



Cherry



Above: The Deluxe Sketch Pencils.

Below: A comparison of the Mini and the Deluxe. Of note is that the Deluxe Sketch Pencil lead is pointed and had 3—color refills as well as black. The Deluxe model also has a sharpener in the top cap.

Mini Sketch



Deluxe Sketch



WOOD OF THE MONTH TREE AND USES



Texas Ebony turning blanks, an Ebony tree and the tree bark.





Texas Ebony flowers and seed pods.

Some items made with this wood are a box for tissues, a lidded box and a turned bowl.





**Turn-On! Chicago
Woodturning
Symposium**

August 2-4, 2024

**Crowne Plaza Northbrook
Hotel
Northbrook, IL**



**ROCK THE
HEADSTOCK**

**ORNAMENTAL TURNERS INTERNATIONAL
2024 SYMPOSIUM**

**Ornamental Turners
International Symposium**

August 23-25, 2024

Waco, TX



**Southwest Association
of Turners Symposium**

August 23-25, 2024

Waco, TX



**Mid Atlantic
Woodturning
Symposium**

September 20-22, 2024

Lancaster, PA