

Turning Times

A publication of the Brazos Valley Wood Turners

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FEBRUARY 14, 2012

MONTHLY MEETING: 9 am 11 February at
TSTC, Waco

DEMONSTRATOR:

The February demonstrator is our own Joel Crabbe. He will demonstrate how to turn a vessel much like the ones that he decorates with metal paints and copper. The picture is of a similar Mesquite vessel.



NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

I want to thank all of you for your prayers and support during my family's recent loss. This meant a great deal to Jan and me. Things are just getting back to normal and I can finally turn my attention back to BVWT and woodturning. One thing I am tardy on is the Bill Meador Award. I will present the award at the March meeting. I will send out the specifications for the walking cane so we can complete it by the March meeting.

Jan and I attended the SWAT meeting in Waco last Saturday and I will cover what was presented at our February meeting. Congratulations to Dena. She is the new Secretary of SWAT. BVWT now has 2 members that are officers of SWAT. This is great for our club. I look forward to seeing everyone at the February meeting.

Tom

DUES:

Just a reminder that our \$25 annual dues need to be paid. This is to provide funding for our door prizes, snacks, special events and to help bring nationally known turners to our club. Please remember to bring those checks and

Norm will accept cash money!

MEETING NOTES

Treasurer's report : \$1036.76 and a reminder to pay \$25 dues.

OLD BUSINESS

Art show possibility: This is to clarify what was presented. BVWT was offered the opportunity to rent a facility for \$1000 for an art show. BVWT would be responsible for tables, chairs, electricity, ticket sales, promotions etc. Motion was made and passed not to do this art show.

Wood Swap: This is to further clarify what it entails. Apparently the AAW sent all clubs an invitation for swapping woods with fellow woodturners who happen to be passing through an area. For example, some one from PA driving through Texas on vacation might like to trade 8" bowl blanks and get some local Texas woods in exchange for some PA local woods. Bill will be the contact person for this and is making a list of BVWT members who would like to be involved with this exchange. For further information and to sign up, contact Bill.

NEW BUSINESS

23 members and 1 visitor and 1 interpreter present at the meeting.

Bill has taken over the web site.

A card was passed around for Tom who lost his Mother. He will be going to Alabama for the funeral.

After discussion of door prizes, the motion to increase the regular monthly door prize to \$40 and have three \$75 dollar prizes for our Spring Picnic, Fall Retreat and Christmas Party was passed.

It was suggested that a beginner's class be held as we are getting some new turners. Joel and James are working on the details as to where and when and who. Watch the newsletter for further details.

SWAT: The meeting will be in Waco at the end of the

month. BVWT voted to do table decorations again.

SAFETY MINUTE/TIPS

Note the change to safety minute and/or tips. Please feel free to contact the editor with suggestions so you don't have to stand in front of everyone and talk.

TIP from Janice. She had turned some oak which warped badly. Ken suggested steaming throughly and then putting weights on to flatten out the piece for about a week. She has saved at least 3 new pieces with this technique.

TIP from Roger. The true mastery of turning is not with a specific tool or wood or finish but it is practice. His tip is to practice with one tool 10 minutes a day every day and not try and make that "perfect" bowl but rather learn how that tool cuts and experiment. Mastery of tools and knowing how to control them is essential to mastering turning. By practicing on a practice piece, you are not being stressed to make something and can focus on making sandpaper free cuts. It was suggested that you do one tool at a time instead changing tools every day.

BRING BACKS

James Norton brought back a mesquite pen which was won by Lloyd Niederviter.

Ron Taylor brought back a jar lid on a jar full of candy which was won by James Norton.

The set of mini-tools was won by Lloyd Niederviter.

The above winners are responsible for bringing back a item for the next meeting.

The Bring Backs are a way that we can get other people's work and share our own while making a little money for the club. It only works when the winners bring back a piece. If you win something and for whatever reason cannot do a bring back then the club officers will provide the bring back.

Additional items given away were pen blanks for James, Janice and I could not read my notes.

In addition a bowl was donated by Charlie Lewandawski (sorry for any misspelling) and was won by Keeley.

The above people do NOT have to bring back anything.

THINGS A' TURNING

Instead of a project this issue, I decided to "build" something. At SWAT 2011 I bought a mini-grinder to add interesting things to my lace bobbins. From the first use it became very apparent that I needed to control the dust generated from the grinder. I started with a fan blowing dust away and quickly realized there had to be a better system. After searching the web for ideas and realizing that I didn't have a spare \$200+ to purchase a power carver's dust collection system which appeared to be not much more than a box with an air-filter, an exhaust fan and a plastic surround at the front to contain the dust, I tried to design a cheaper version. My first attempt was simply a box with a fan to suck the dust away. The idea was great but execution not so great. I realized I needed a better more commercial type fan. I asked my sister if she or her husband had some sort of fan I could have as they tend to have a lot of interesting functional stuff hanging around. After several e-mail exchanges they understood what I wanted and told me they would see what they could come up with. I was just expected a fan around which I could build a box that would also fit a common size air conditioner filter. I got something quite different and almost ready to go.

As you can see, the fan has been mounted in the back of an old Mac computer case and the system includes exhaust tubing and flanges as well as a wooden interior base.



They told me that all I would have to do, would get some air conditioner mat and cut it to shape. Good idea but....the store bought ones used a/c filters so I asked a handyman I knew if I put the mat over the a/c filter it that would catch the dust and he said it would be more efficient.

Here is the a/c filter crushed in to fit and taped so as to stem excess air leakage which would decrease the efficiency of the system.



And, a special thanks to my sister and her husband for having the insight to have saved a fan in the first place.

Any comments about my taping and design, please be warned I had the dollies and Easy Bake Oven as a child instead of Lincoln Logs and tools.

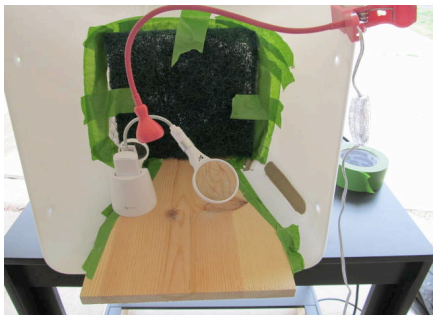
Here is the matt over the filter.



This will eventually become more “artistic” than practical and still prevent excess air leakage.



I added LED lighting and magnifier as well as taping around the wooden floor.



In addition I used an IKEA \$20 desk as a dedicated workbench for the system. I had the wheels (casters) already as well as the wood and necessary screws. My cost was about \$28 but the usability, functionality, and stuff being recycled and uniqueness of my system—PRICELESS!