



Contains December 2023 Minutes

January 2024

THE BUCKEYE BARK
December 9th, 2023

Anyone wishing to submit pictures for the newsletter please send them to the editor within two days of the meeting

*******Note*******

Buckeye Woodturners Meeting
NW Family Rec. Center
Akron, OH
December 9, 2023

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Stransky

The December 9, 2023 meeting of the Buckeye Woodworkers and Woodturners was held at the Northwest Family Recreation Center in Akron, Ohio. President Bob Hasenyager started by welcoming all to the meeting.



There were 95 members and guests at today's meeting. Today's meeting was the annual BWWT Christmas Party. There was more food there than could be eaten! Thanks go out to everyone who brought a covered dish to share. A HUGE THANK YOU also goes out to Ray and Diane Marr and family, Jack Boggio, Dirk Falther and everyone who helped with making sure that everything went smoothly. President Bob also noted that there were three members in attendance who were part of the founding group of the Buckeye Woodworkers and Woodturners - Dave Hout, Hoby Horn, and Howard Lorson.





It Wouldn't Be A Party Without the People and the Food!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WHAT'S COMING UP

2024 will start off with demonstrations from Dave Hout in January with metal spinning, Jeff Farris from Woodpeckers in February showing how to use carbide tools, and Kevin Dalton in March with long neck hollow forms.

A WORD FROM OUR NEW 2024 PRESIDENT, Kevin Dalton

Another year for the BWWT is in the books. Our snowbirds have gone south for the winter leaving the rest of us to fend for ourselves in the cold and snow. However, I'm sure that spring can't be too far off and until then I don't have to mow the lawn and can spend that time in the shop instead of on the mower!

By all standards that I am aware of, our Christmas gathering for the December meeting was a huge success. There was a lot of effort put into this event by some really great people including Ray and Diane Marr, Jack Boggio, & Dirk Falther. The centerpieces that Jack and Dirk produced were very popular door prizes. These were really nice pieces and those who were lucky enough to get one went home with a very nice prize. It was nice to see so many long time members as well as those who have more recently become members. It was fun watching the participants in the gift exchange open their gifts which were all quite well done. The variety was nice to see. I look at my exchange gift every morning and evening as they are now on my dresser serving as coin and key holders as well as anything else that ends up in my pockets. They look great there and were very well turned by one of our newer members, Mark Spencer.

Thanks Mark.

We also had quite a few good tips to make our woodturning a bit easier and more enjoyable. I really liked the painting on the miniature ornaments presented by our 2024 VP Rob Smith. George, Marshall, Bob, Dirk, and Rob also provided some good advice, including quickly sizing tenons for scroll chucks, dealing with pen bushing wear, tools to help you avoid

going through the bottom of a bowl or hollow form, inexpensive ways to measure wall thickness of your turnings and the finest detailed painting that I have ever seen on a wood turning. Just a nice event all around. Thanks to those noted and the many others who chipped in and helped out to make it such a great event.

As I think about it, that has been pretty much the state of affairs all year long. Lots of very talented people chipping in to get the jobs done. Everything from the production of turning blanks for our club members, pen turning classes, Christmas ornament turning classes, the purchase of new equipment for the club, taking pictures of club events, activities and the show and tell items, putting together the newsletter every month (which always has a detailed summary of the months demonstration), keeping track of the club's finances and paying the bills, picking up donuts each month for the meeting, arranging the demonstrations each month and seeing that the demonstrator is taken care of, setting up for the meeting each month, setting up the audio video equipment and getting it safely taken back down and stored each month, working out the details of the schedule to use the Family Center, putting together a yearly wood turning show, getting the pieces that are submitted for the show gathered together. There is much more that I am sure to have missed during this past year. All this just to say that there are a lot of people in this club that deserve a lot of thanks and credit for a job well done. Thank you all and sorry that I did not list everyone.

I am still learning from these talented people and will continue to learn through 2024. That is what makes this job so rewarding since I know that there is so much talented support ready and willing to help out at a moment's notice. We can always use more help, however, so don't be shy.

The 2024 program is off to a good start with one of the clubs founding members doing a demonstration on metal spinning. This is something that should be quite interesting and another chance to see Dave Hout in action doing what he does so well. Come and have a donut and a cup of coffee (guaranteed to be better than it has been in 2023) while watching a great demonstration by one of our best. See you there!

A WORD FROM OUR 2024 VICE-PRESIDENT, Rob Smith

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you. I am a native West Texan. I graduated from the University of Texas at the Permian Basin with a B.S. in chemistry and an art (ceramics) minor.

After graduation I took a refinery chemist position in Corpus Christi and stayed there for nine years. From there, I was hired at Oak Ridge National Laboratory as a research scientist. I retired from ORNL in the spring of 2021 and we moved to Medina in October of 2021 to be close to our daughter and son-in-law.

This last April we were blessed with our first grand baby, Griffin. He was evidently in a hurry to get things started so he decided 28 weeks was about all he could take. He spent the next 3 months in the NICU before he was released to go home.

About eight years ago I bought a Jet 1642 and began my journey of turning and learning. I took a class from Rudy Lopez at Arrowmont and made a few natural edge bowls before moving on to try my hand at several baseball bats. I was fortunate enough to have a local woodturners club that I could join, the Smoky Mountain Woodturners. I also began making some of the traditional hollow form Christmas ornaments but they lacked color. The next year I took another class but from Harvey Meyer and his basket illusion process. From that I started working with the colored pens from Faber-Castell although the color selection was limited at that time. Since then, a great many more colors have made it to market. Included in those are the paint pens from POSCA with a large array of colors and now up to 9 different tip styles in most of the colors. I personally have become a big fan of the “metallics” and especially the newer “glitter pens” from POSCA.

Several of you asked about more detail on the process I use to make an ornament. I will see if I can paint a clearer picture than I did at the Christmas party (public speaking ranks right up there with cleaning a toilet with a toothbrush for me).

I like to use (in order of preference): holly, bradford pear, maple, or walnut on my ornaments. Holly produces a porcelain like finish that makes the colors really pop. Most of the ornaments I make are solid forms (not hollowed out). Consequently, they need to be relatively small to stay within a reasonable weight. Ornaments that are going to be used on a larger tree may weigh somewhat more.

Many if not most of my ornaments begin as a branch section from secondary or tertiary branches which have been end grain sealed and dried to dimensional stability. Prepare a series of blanks by mounting between centers and stripping down one end to about $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1" diameter and 1-1/2" to 2" long. Each blank is subsequently mounted using a chuck with pen jaws. Strip the exposed blank down to a cylinder. Turn the tailstock end of the blank to form the bottom of the ornament. I usually try to turn about 1/3

of the overall ornament length to the final shape. Sand to 400 to 600 grit and clean the resulting surface prior to sealing with the sanding sealer. Allow the sanding sealer to dry and use your selected pens to begin applying color to the ornament. When you are satisfied with your first section allow the painted areas to dry completely. With the lathe on its lowest speed apply several short burst of Mod Podge clear acrylic sealer (gloss or matte) to the painted portions of the ornament and allow several minutes for it to dry before proceeding to the next section of the ornament.

Repeat the process for the second 1/3 section and the final third section. Part off the ornament when you have completed any additional decoration. Smooth the top surface, add any desired coloration and apply a final light coat of Mod Podge clear sealer. Mark the center of the ornament top and drill a pilot hole for the eye hook. I usually add a decorative “bobble” with the eye hook. A small amount of wood glue will hold the eyehook for a very long time. Sign and date your ornament and apply several finish coats of “Rust-Oleum” spray lacquer. I use a bent wire to hold the ornament whilst it is being sprayed and dried.

PRESIDENT KEVIN DALTON'S 10 TIPS FOR WOODTURNING

OK, so I didn't have any tips this year for our December meeting but have come up with some since then. My day job is winding down for the year and I can focus on my extracurricular woodturning activity. Since I am a male, this is focused in that direction but if you're female you can make changes as necessary, for example, substitute a Monster Truck event (or something to that effect) for the Ballet!

1. If you have more than one lathe, don't ever line them all up in a row and let your Spouse see them, especially if you intend to buy another one. It just complicates the negotiations when you want to add to the collection.
2. If you want to attend a wood turning symposium, take your spouse out for a nice dinner and a visit to the ballet. I know it's difficult, but it really works! You might even be able to catch a few Z's in the process!
3. Give your Spouse first choice of everything that comes out of your shop.
4. Remember to finish household projects in a somewhat timely manner. This one depends on how patient and understanding your spouse is. I am extremely lucky on this account! I think that after a 10 year wait, I'm finally going to finish up the

4. drawers that I needed to build for a vanity that I built for the seldom used basement bathroom (at least that is the plan over for the last couple of weeks of 2023).
5. Install dust collectors and clean up after yourself.
6. Don't leave small tools, nuts and bolts, or other small metallic objects in your pockets when your clothes head off to the laundry.
7. Washing machines are magnets for wood chips! Clean the wood chips out of your pockets too, nobody likes to find wood chips in their underwear after it has been run through the laundry. It's amazing how far the residue from turning a Christmas ornament can travel and the odd places these chips turn up.
8. Speaking of laundry rooms, this is probably not a good place to store your turning blanks. Seldom used basement bathrooms fall into that same category too. Better to keep things in the shop or the garage (or that barn if you have one).
9. Have plans on how you are going to get rid of all your wonderful work. There is only so much room in the house to exhibit your hard work and masterpieces.
10. Support your woodturning community. Involve your spouse if possible and if you have been storing yew bush root balls on your patio for more than 2 years you had better get to them before it becomes three years.

I could go on, but I need to excuse myself now to deal with some incredibly fantastic wood (in my eyes) that has been sitting on the patio for a couple of years now. Good Luck with your turning in 2024!

MONTHLY WINNERS

The monthly name tag winner was Dorothy Duke. Each month the nametag winner will receive a \$20 gift certificate.

The BWWT Newsletter "Did You Read It" challenge was next on the agenda. The winner will be determined by a random draw of those dues paid members who read the newsletter and submitted an email to Mark Stransky where they found the hidden word and where in the newsletter it was. The winner will receive a \$20 gift certificate. You must be present at the meeting or attending on Zoom during the meeting to win. This month's winner by random draw was Erin Sebert. The keyword for this month will be "foe". Please keep in mind that the keyword used in the previous sentence doesn't count as a winning entry.

Bob Stone and Marshall Holmes were this month's photographers. They both did a good job of wandering through the crowd to capture the festivities.

BEADS OF COURAGE

The Beads of Courage program deals with seriously ill children and their treatment. As each child goes through various treatments and procedures, the child receives a special bead signifying that accomplishment. These procedures can be anything from getting a medicinal shot, an I.V. or any medical or surgical procedure along with significant milestones and achievements. The Beads of Courage organization provides boxes for each child to store their beads. These boxes are hand crafted and donated by various organizations and BWWT members can submit boxes. Information about the program can be found at the organization's website: <https://beadsofcourage.org>. BWWT will have a supply of Beads of Courage medallions for each box. BWWT will be donating boxes to Akron Children's Hospital and all boxes should be brought to BWWT meetings for donation. Let's continue making this a regular donation to this great cause. Guidelines for making boxes are as follows:

- Turned or rectangular boxes are acceptable.
- Recommended interior dimensions for turned boxes are 5" to 6" diameter and 4" to 5" high. Recommended interior dimensions for flatwork boxes are 4" x 6" x 4" high. Please keep in mind that these dimensions are approximate and anything close will work.
- Box bases should be wide enough so the box is stable and does not tip over easily. Lids should be easy for small or ill children to remove or lift. Any finials should be easy for a small child to grasp and not too elaborate so they don't break. Avoid designs that could easily break or be damaged.
- The finish on the boxes is extremely important! Children who receive these boxes are highly susceptible to germs and infections. Each box should be sanded smooth inside and outside so that there are **NO ROUGH SURFACES OR TORN END GRAIN** that can trap dirt or germs and **MUST HAVE A NON-TOXIC FINISH** on both the inside and outside of the box. Please avoid finishes that require extended drying time or out gassing (some oil finishes and linseed oil) and finishes that have a strong odor (all forms of lacquer). The applied finish should be apparent; "natural wood look" type of finish should not be used. Unfinished or rough surfaced boxes will not be accepted for donation.

- All kinds of wood are beautiful! Please do not paint Beads of Courage boxes. Instead, highlight the beauty of the wood with a readily apparent clear finish.

One thing that I wish I would have done last year but overlooked was tracking how many boxes BWWT members donated to Beads of Courage. I estimate that in 2022 there were at least 35 boxes donated. This year I plan on keeping track of donations. In December there were 5 boxes brought in that will be taken to Akron Children’s Hospital. This month’s donations were from Ed Duke, Ben Fix and Doug Aichholz. That brings this year’s total to 43 boxes donated.

Mark Stransky would also like to request that anyone submitting Beads of Courage boxes please also bring your donation in a box (if you don’t normally do that). He has finally exhausted his supply of boxes at home (one more thing his wife is VERY happy about) and it is a lot easier to deliver the boxes in a box.



This month’s Show and Tell table

TIPS AND TRICKS PRESENTATIONS

December 9, 2023

*Respectfully submitted,
Mark Stransky*

The Tips and Tricks presentations are always well thought out and informative. The presenters bring years of experience to pass on to our members.

Marshall Holmes started off with some pen turning tips that you probably would never think of but can save you a lot of headaches down the road.

- If you have been using the same bushings for making pens for a while, you may want to replace them. As the body of the pen is turned and sanded the bushings will get smaller from the sanding. Eventually the smaller bushings will lead to the body of the pen being smaller than the parts that are pressed into it and there may be a sharp edge where the two meet. There are bushings available that have wear indicators that will let you know when the bushing is too small and needs to be replaced.
- After the pen bodies have been sanded and are ready for the finish to be applied, wipe them down with a little denatured alcohol to remove any metal particles (from sanding the bushings), sandpaper grit, and wood dust. The denatured alcohol usually won’t raise the grain.
- When applying a CA finish to pen bodies, use plastic bushings (made from white acetel) in place of the metal bushings on the pen mandrel. The CA finish won’t stick to the plastic and will help with clean up.
- Use a mandrel saver in the tailstock in place of the brass nut. The shorter exposure of the mandrel will reduce chatter while you are turning the pen body.

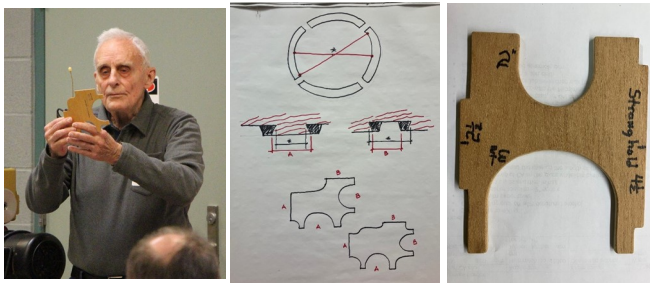
Next up was Bob Hasenyager who showed a unique style of caliper that he uses to measure the thickness of bowl and platter bottoms while they are still mounted in a chuck. He also showed an inexpensive way to blow the sanding dust off after sanding a piece.



George Raeder gave a short explanation on how to set chuck jaws and make a gage for setting the jaw opening for the best fit on a tenon or recess.

- First adjust the jaws so that they are as close as possible to being circular on the chuck. There will be approximately a 1/8” gap between each of the jaws.
- Measure the inside diameter of the chuck jaws and across the inside points of the jaws. If these measurements are the same (or close to it) then the jaws are circular.
- Depending on if the gage will be for a tenon or recess, either add or subtract 1/8” to the measurement to get the ideal dimension to make either your recess or tenon. The following images show

where to measure the chuck and how to cut your gage. In the image of the gage, the round openings are for the minimum and maximum dimensions for a tenon; the protrusions on each side show the diameter to cut a recess.



Rob Smith was the next presenter. Rob described how he applies color to some of the turnings he makes. He showed some examples of his finished product and the finish is excellent. See Rob's introduction in his VP column for a complete explanation of how he applies his colors. His explanation is more detailed than I can give you.



Dirk Falther was the last presenter. Dirk gave some good tips on simple finishes.

- Buy your finishes in the smallest container available to meet your needs. If the can sets for a while without being used or you don't use it regularly, it will probably go bad before you use it up. One member said that he uses stop loss bags for almost all of his finishes and they work very well.
- When applying finishes on the lathe with it running, use a paper towel for safety reasons. If the paper towel gets caught on something it will just tear. If using cloth to apply a finish and it gets caught, there could be problems.
- Mineral oil finishes are what he uses for some of his pieces. This finish is easy to apply and also can be renewed very quickly.
- Polyurethane finishes work well. He usually applies 3 to 4 coats to his work. He can sometimes apply up to 2 finishes per day, 10 – 12 hours apart depending on the weather conditions. If the humidity is very high, it may take longer to dry.

- Tung oil is a finish that needs to be built up. He usually applies 7 or 8 coats and wipes it down with 0000 steel wool between coats
- Paste wax is an easily applied "one and done" finish. All that needs to be done is apply it and then buff it out. This finish is not for something that will be handled a lot as it will wear off. If it needs to be refreshed, just apply another coat and buff it.



Dirk also showed an inexpensive caliper for checking wall thickness that he learned about from David Ellsworth. It basically is a bent wire to gage the thickness of a wall. Get with Dirk if you would like to know more about it.

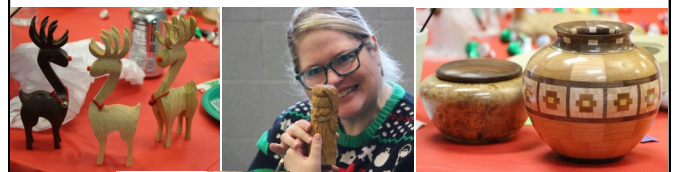
During the presentations, there were drawings for the gift exchange and door prizes. There were almost 30 gift exchanges and about 35 door prizes given out.



The Gifts for the Gift Exchange



Santa's Elves Hard at Work



Some of the Gifts From the Exchange



Just Some of the Door Prizes

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

If any member has an article they would like to include in the newsletter, don't hesitate to send it to either : [Mark Stransky](#) or [Keith Bellamy](#) and it will appear in the next newsletter.

SAFETY NOTE

Be sure to use proper safety equipment including eye, hearing and breathing protection whenever you are working on projects in your workshop. Make sure that you fully understand and follow the safe operating procedures for every piece of equipment that you use.

EMBROIDERED LOGOS

If anyone would like to have their name and the BWWT logo embroidered on any new (preferably) or gently worn shirt or other item, see Ray Marr.

FREE RAFFLE TICKETS – GET THEM HERE!

If you are a Menard's Shopper and don't always apply for the rebate, bring your Menard's receipts to the monthly meeting. BWWT frequently purchases from Menard's and we receive a tax free purchase benefit as a non-profit. We'll handle the receipt rebate refund and use the funds for future items for the raffle table! It doesn't matter how small the rebate is since we'll pool all the receipts. Each Menard's receipt you donate for the rebate earns one free raffle ticket. Several of the monthly raffle items come from Menard's as we are always shopping there. Please remember to submit all receipts before they expire.

MEMBER DISCOUNT PROGRAMS

Members in good standing are eligible for 10% discounts at Hartville Hardware and Penn State Indus-

tries. See Dirk Falther for more information on our discount programs.

UPCOMING MEETING ACTIVITIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS

January 12, 2024: Dave Hout will demonstrate metal spinning.

February 10, 2024: Jeff Farris from Woodpeckers will demonstrate how to use carbide tools.

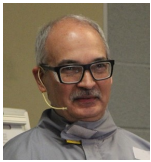
March 9, 2024: Kevin Dalton will demonstrate how he turns long neck hollow forms.

SOME FINAL THOUGHTS – JUST FOR THE HECK OF IT

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than the ones you did do. So, throw off the bow lines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sail. Explore. Dream. Discover. – Mark Twain

I always wanted to be a procrastinator. I just never got around to it.

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