

Turning Times

The monthly newsletter of the Inland Woodturners

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Multi-Axis Turning

Written by Ron Sahli
Photos by Ron Sahli

This month's demo was Multi-Axis turning given by your own newsletter editor. I had been intrigued by the shaped you could create by changing the axis used during turning. The first thing I did was to look for a book or video on multi-axis turning, but I could only find one book from 1992 on multi-center turning. It was not what I had been looking for, so I kept looking and ran across [Barbara Dill's website](#). After looking at the pictures of what she was turning, I ordered her DVD and after watching it a few times, I did as she suggested and turned some samples. I got a little feel for how the tools behaved cutting air and wood at the same time, and what the turning looked like when you moved the axis. I studied her system for understanding multi-axis turning. They are difficult to understand until you actually turn some wood. Bringing in some of the things I had turned brought me to do this demo. I don't have years of experience with this, and you don't need years of experience in order to try something new in turning. When you see something you like, investigate it and give it a try.

Well, the demo started with a slide show presentation (posted on the IWT website) talking about multi-axis turning and the planning involved. Unlike some turned items, they take a certain amount of planning and forethought.

You need to decide ahead of time what cuts and axis you will be using for the piece. Barbara's four quadrant method helps you to figure out how your piece will look as you select the axis to use and the whether you cut all the way to solid wood or not. If you did not see the presentation from the meeting, now would be a good time to review it. There is too much information in the presentation to include in the article. The piece on the left shows the planning involved in making a multi-axis turning. I have decided to use 4 axis, (these are marked on the ends of the piece) 0-3 and have written on each section the axis I will cut it on. This type of planning is critical for



(Continued on page 3)

Monthly Challenge

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One of the main goals of the Inland Woodturners is to educate and inspire its members in the art of wood turning. Each month a member or a guest instructor will lead a presentation or a demonstration related to the art of wood turning. The following month's challenge is loosely based on the presentation; all members of the club are challenged to take what they learned and use it. We realize everyone does not have the same tools and equipment; challenges are designed with that in mind. If the demonstration is a full size platter and you only have a mini lathe, your challenge is to make a smaller platter using the same basic shape. If the challenge requires a special tool you do not own or want to own you may be able to take your project to another club member's workshop and/or borrow the needed tool. If you meet the monthly challenge, and present your challenge piece to the club at the next meeting, you will be entered in the drawing for a \$25 gift certificate from Craft Supplies USA. If you meet all 12 Challenges for the year you will be eligible for the Ironman year end award.

Wood Raffle

One of the ways this club covers expenses is the monthly wood raffle. Members are encouraged to bring a chunk of wood or two for the raffle. Raffle tickets are a buck each or six for five dollars. Some of our best work has been done with raffle wood, part of the fun is figuring out what you can make from a piece of raffle wood.

Show and Tell

Each meeting everyone in attendance is given an opportunity to show work other than the monthly challenge. Items in show and tell should meet the following guidelines.

1. Something you made yourself out of wood even if it was not on a lathe.
2. Something you crafted yourself using your lathe, but not necessarily out of wood, it could have been made out of acrylic, plastic, deer antlers etc.
3. A specialized tool or jig you made or purchased for use in your workshop, that you feel the members of the club would be interested in.

If you present a show and tell item you will be entered in a drawing for a \$10 gift certificate at Craft Supplies USA.

Multi-Axis Turning

getting predictable and repeatable results. The demo consisted of two types of multi-axis turnings, parallel axis cut to solid wood, and twisted axis cut to air wood. The former results in a crankshaft type design and the latter a spiral.



Parallel axis cut solid wood

Once you have your axes marked and pressed into the ends you can start cutting wood. As with all turning this is where the problems can arise. The first problem is what tool to use. The first answer is to use a sharp tool that you are comfortable with and is appropriate to the cut you are making. With the long reach you have to make over the tool rest, many use a detail gouge ground to an aggressive 35 degrees. This gives clean cuts on air wood.



Twisted axis cut air wood

To make the crankshaft shape, you start by turning the piece round and then removing it from the lathe. At this point you need to determine how many and where the other axes will be. The axes do not need to be far apart from each other to make a dramatic effect, so start small and see what you get. Mark them on the ends and number them for reference. Then put the piece between centers and mark each axis with the live and drive center. This will make indentations in the piece while the wood is thick that will be used after much of the wood has been removed and the piece is much weaker. Now make the design and which access you will use. Set the piece to the first axis and hand turn the piece before turning the lathe on. Turn each axis and sand before going to the next axis. Remember to keep your fingers on the safe side of the tool rest.

To make the spiral shape, you again start by turning it round and then remove it from the lathe. Then decide how many sides your spiral will have, three, four, or more. Make that number of axes on the ends. Make sure to number them as you will be turning them which is offset by one from head stock to tail stock. Now replace it in the lathe with the axes lined up and press them together firmly to mark each end. Now determine how thick you want the spiral to be. Take half of this and that is how close you must cut away material from each axis. Now set the tool rest and make sure it is parallel to the lathe axis. You will not be moving the tool rest until you have turned all the sides of your spiral. I like to take the majority of the wood off with a spindle gouge and then the final cuts with a sharp skew chisel. This leaves a smooth finish requiring little sanding.



Now that you have this unique multi-axis shape, you must decide how to incorporate it into a final turned piece. A couple of simple options are to turn a tenon on each end and then turn a base and cup for an off center goblet. You could also turn a base and holder for a taper candle for a great candle holder.

Our challenge this month is to turn a marked up piece with the ends still showing the axis you used. This will help you learn how this shape is made and be able to make another or a variation. If you want extra credit then turn a finished item using the piece with the marking on it.

You now have some of the basics, now try it out and see what an extra axis or two, a sharp tool, and a creative turner can create.



AAW Symposium 2012 San Jose, CA

Written by Ron Sahli

Last month, I attended my first AAW symposium. So, I thought I would share with those who would were not there. The first thing I did was look at all the various presenters and what they were demonstrating, to plan out who I was going to see when. This was not an easy task as there were so many great subjects and demonstrators.. Here was my schedule, Friday (Push-cut bowl turning with Ashley Harwood, Decorative finishes with Carmen De La Paz, DIY spalting with Sara Robinson, Color & texture with Merryll Saylan), Saturday (Repetitive Stress with Donald Derry, Eccentric chuck with Jean-Francois Escoulen, Bowl turning tips with Bill Luce, Multi-axis turning with Barbara Dill), Sunday (Natural Edge Bowls with Andy Cole, Miniature bird houses with Dick Sing, and Cross grain box with Richard Raffan. In between this schedule there was the vendor fair and trip thru the instant gallery.

I got something from all the demos, but some of my favorites were the DIY Spalting presentation, Eccentric Chuck demo, and Natural Edge bowls. The next best thing to do was to look at all the turning in the instant gallery. The variety, beauty, and technical skill that these items display was incredible.

I saw a few of our members in between demos and hope that all of you have the opportunity to attend an AAW Symposium in the future.



Upcoming Events

JULY

Sunday the 15th at Goeske center from 1:00pm to ~ 4:30pm

IWT Meeting with a Turn-a-thon. Bring a mini lathe or use the clubs and show what you know. We will be doing hands on demos and giving everyone a chance to try out what is being shown. So bring your questions, tools, wood, a desire to try out some new techniques. Tool sharpening will also be covered.

Saturday the 21st at Rockler in Ontario 9:00am to ~ 2:00pm

Bring your lathe and turn in front of the crowds, promote the club, or just come and offer moral support.

AUGUST

Sunday the 18th at Goeske center from 1:00pm to ~ 4:30pm

IWT Meeting with demonstration by Richard Spencer on Segmented Turning. Richard is well known for his segmented tunings and his specializing in urns and castles. Don't miss what I am sure will be an entertaining and interesting demo.

SEPTEMBER

Sunday the 16th at Goeske center from 1:00pm to ~ 4:30pm

IWT Meeting with demonstration by Dave Morgan on Miniatures. Dave is know for so many different things, Turned hats, miniature surfboards (and other miniatures), knot tying, and the list goes on and on...

Saturday the 15th at Rockler in Ontario 9:00am to ~ 2:00pm

Bring your lathe and turn in front of the crowds, promote the club, or just come and offer moral support.

OCTOBER

Sunday the 21st at Goeske center from 1:00pm to ~ 4:30pm

IWT Meeting with demonstration by Bob Nay on Xmas Ornaments. Bob as well as being the club's treasurer, also turns some of the nicest small turnings.

NOVEMBER

Saturday the 17th, all day demo by John Jordan from 9 AM to 4:30 PM. Price to be announced later.

Sunday the 18th at Goeske center from 1:00pm to ~ 4:30pm

IWT Meeting with demonstration by Jim Sciolla on turning a donut box. Don't miss the chance to see Jim in action. Heckling will be strictly encouraged.

Saturday the 17th at Rockler in Ontario 9:00am to ~ 2:00pm

Bring your lathe and turn in front of the crowds, promote the club, or just come and offer moral support.

DECEMBER

Sunday the 16th at Goeske center from 1:00pm to ~ 4:30pm

IWT annual Christmas party and celebration.



Show and Tell

This month's show and tell contained many great items!

The show and tell was a little light this month. We had a few great items. Remember that show and tell is great way to share your success, but also ask how you could make improvements. This is a key part to everyone in the club learning and growing as turners.

Bring an item in July!



Your piece
could be
here.



Challenge / Show & Tell Forms

Below are copies of the Challenge / Show and Tell forms. If you find yourself having to borrow a pen, struggling to remember the type of wood or finish used on your project at the meeting, then print out this page and fill in the forms in the convenience of your own home.

We will still have forms at the meeting as well.

Please remember to circle where the form is for the Challenge for the Show and Tell. It makes my life a lot easier.

INLAND WOODTURNERS
Challenge / Show & Tell Form
(please circle one)

Month: _____

Name of Turner: _____

Description of Piece: _____

Type(s) of Wood used: _____

Finish used: _____

INLAND WOODTURNERS
Challenge / Show & Tell Form
(please circle one)

Month: _____

Name of Turner: _____

Description of Piece: _____

Type(s) of Wood used: _____

Finish used: _____

INLAND WOODTURNERS
Challenge / Show & Tell Form
(please circle one)

Month: _____

Name of Turner: _____

Description of Piece: _____

Type(s) of Wood used: _____

Finish used: _____

INLAND WOODTURNERS
Challenge / Show & Tell Form
(please circle one)

Month: _____

Name of Turner: _____

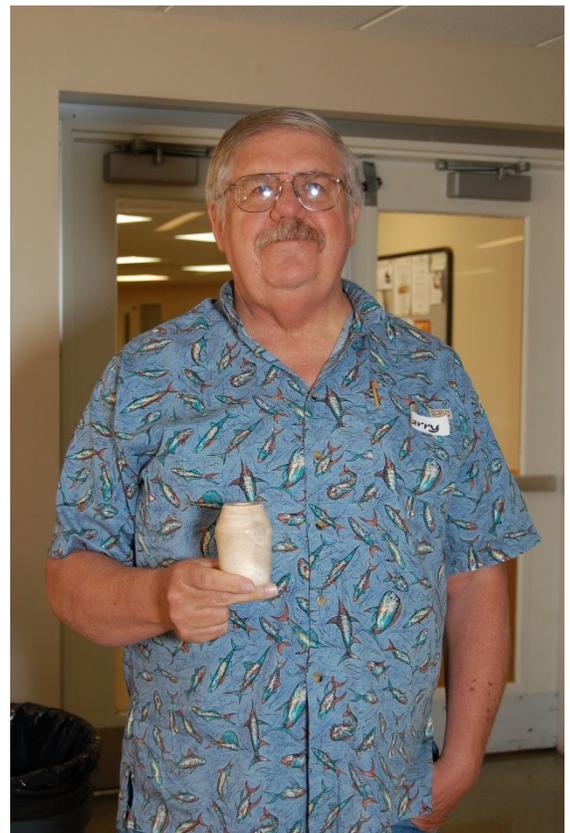
Description of Piece: _____

Type(s) of Wood used: _____

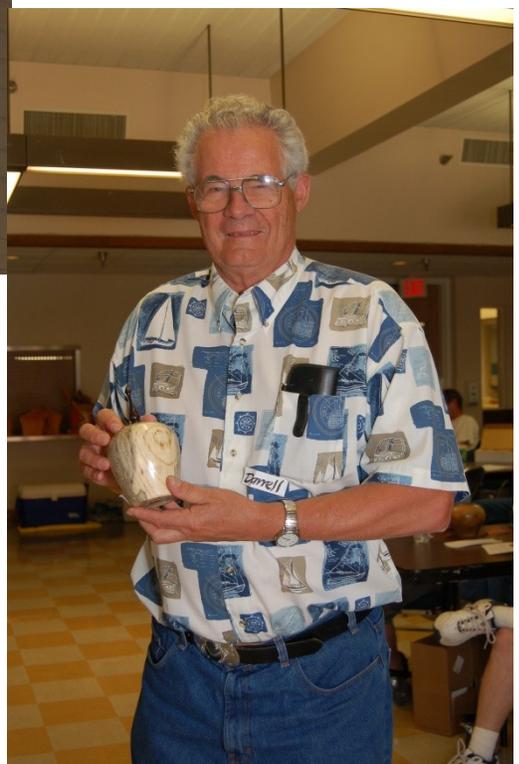
Finish used: _____

Challenge “Hollow Form”

The April challenge was to make a Hollow Form.



Challenge "Hollow Form"



Iron Man Challenge 2012



	<i>Mortar & Pestle</i>	<i>Matched Items</i>	<i>Spin top</i>	<i>Hollow Forms</i>	<i>Multi-axis Turning</i>	<i>Turn a Thon</i>	<i>Segmented Turning</i>	<i>Minia- tures</i>			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Gary Bingham	X	X	X	X							
Larry Cooper	X	X	X	X							
Cliff Dean	X	X	X								
Darrell Harris	X	X		X							
Dave Holzberger	X	X	X	X							
Brad Joplin	X	X	X								
Robert Love	X	X	X	X							
Darrell Luthy	X	X	X	X							
Rick Mills	X										
Dave Morgan	X	X									
Tom Perkins	X	X	X	X							
Ron Sahli	X	X	X								
Matt Sahli	X	X	X								
Jim Sciolla	X	X	X								
Richard Spencer	X	X	X	X							
Jim Thompson	X										

Iron man Challenge Criteria

Your wood turning must meet the requirements for that particular Challenge. It must be timely, done or at least completed after the demonstration and turned in within two months. You must fill out the challenge questionnaire, and present it to the group.

Turning Around The Web

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Meeting Minutes

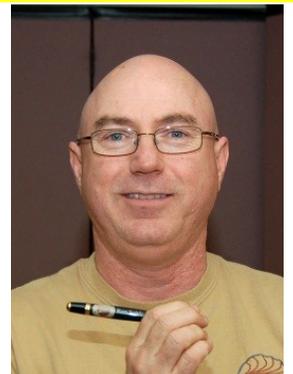
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Newsletter Editor's Notes

As always I am looking forward to your comments, suggestions, and criticisms. They are all welcome.

I encourage all of you to submit an article to be included in the newsletter.

If you have any ideas for suggestion, please email me at Ron@sahli.us or call me at 951-203-8257.

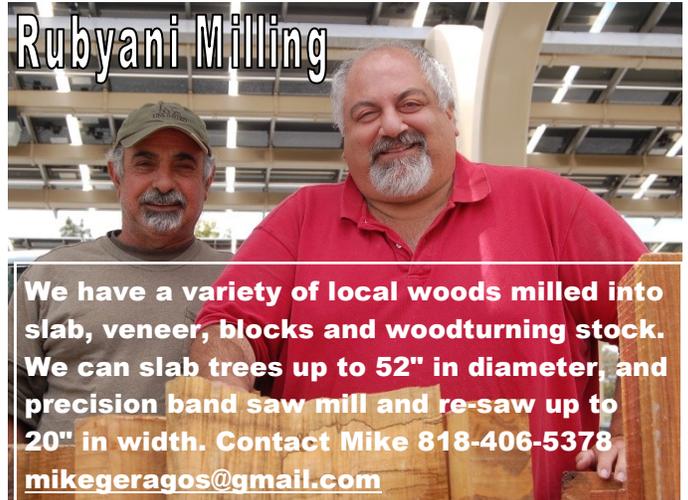


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