

# UTAH WOODCHIPS



## Message from the President

April - 2007

March 6th we gathered at MacBeath Hardwood where we were pleased to have Jim McBride demonstrate a threaded acorn box. He did a great job and as always you can read more about it inside. Thanks Jim!

We followed up, with Jim's help fortunately, doing some hand threading for our third Thursday training. Everyone who wanted had an opportunity to try internal and external threads for themselves. A lot of good threads were cut. I think the club has a great start for the threaded box challenge for the May meeting. Practice, practice, practice and get those challenge entries turning.

April 3rd we will meet at Timberline Woodworkers Supply in Orem. We will be privileged to have Lynn Jacobson demonstrate segmented turning techniques. Clear your calendar because Lynn does beautiful work. I promised the third Thursday would be about segmented turning so I am requesting ideas from the club as to what would be most beneficial for you.

We will be back at MacBeath Hardwood in May with Joe Wagner demonstrating and then the club picnic at Craft Supplies in June.

There are three additional events coming up as well. On Saturday, May 19th, we are going to have a turnathon up at Mt. Green, like we have in the past. Pack up your midi lathe, tools and project wood, and join us for a fun day. If you don't own a midi, bring your tools and wood, as there are always extra lathes available. The club will provide lunch. Saturday, June 9th, Malcolm Tibbetts will put on a segmented turning workshop. We will meet at MacBeath at 9:00 a.m. The cost will be \$25 per person and will include lunch. Finally, don't forget the symposium coming up June 21- 23. You will want to register for this right away as there are only about 450 tickets and it always sells out early. Visit <http://www.utahwoodturning.com> for registration information.

Remember to do the turners' challenge each month. It's a great way to practice what we learn in the demonstrations and hone our skills. The best few (judged by me) will receive a \$10.00 gift certificate from Craft Supplies, USA. Any current member can enter.

*—Dave Best*

*One of our members, Bruce Bassett, was fortunate enough to have his name drawn for the AAW re-subscription lathe give-away. Bruce won a Powermatic 3520B lathe! As it turns out, he already owns a Powermatic 3520A and needs to sell one or the other. He will sell the 3520B (new in box) for \$2400 or the 3520A for \$2000. He is happy with either one. If you are interested, contact Bruce at 801 226-5267 by the third week in April. If no one local is interested, he'll sell it on Ebay.*

## Regular Monthly Meeting (first Tuesday)

Apr 3rd - Timberline

1402 W. Center - Orem

May 1st - MacBeath Hardwood

1576 S 300 W - SLC

June— 5th - Club Picnic

Craft Supplies USA

1287 E 1120 S - Provo



Now accepting orders for the Utah Woodturners Symposium 2006 CD

2005 Utah Woodturners Symposium CD is still available

We also have CD's back to 1999

The CD is compatible with PC and Mac

Cost \$35.00 each and includes shipping

If you would like to buy a CD at the club meeting, they are available for \$30.00 by saving shipping costs

**Jim McBride —**

### **Hand Thread Chasing**

Our guest turner this month was Jim McBride. He has spent some time in trying to master hand thread chasing. He agreed to share what he has learned with us. We had a large crowd at MacBeath to watch this demo.

Jim has relied heavily on two sources for his work, Allan Batty's DVD and a book called "All Screwed Up". There is also some good suggestions in two handouts that Jim provided. He suggested that 20tpi was a good size to start with. The most common thread sizes are 10, 16, 20, 24 and 32tpi. He has only used 10, 16 and 20tpi.

The wood is the next most important thing. Jim has found Costello Boxwood, African Blackwood, Cocobolo, English Boxwood (if you can find it), Knob Thorne and LignumVitae to work well with threads. Avoid soft, open grain woods altogether. Jim has tried using CA glue to harden up the thread area and even poured epoxy in a groove to cut the threads in soft wood with varied success.

Acorn boxes are good to start with and you can use scraps that all of us have. Jim used Lignum Vitae for the top or cap and Costello boxwood for the nut portion. First he rounded off the blank for the top, used a spindle gouge to set the basic shape of the outside, then used the same gouge to hollow out the inside. Make sure you leave the sides parallel to the center line so the threads will track straight.. He then smoothed the bottom and sides with a square nosed scraper.

The threads are begun by first putting a small rebate at the inside wall of the lid as an escape spot for the chaser. Second, round off the inside leading edge of the lid to make starting the thread easier and allow the base to screw on easier. Finally, set the tool rest at an angle with the left edge near the work and the right edge away. This gives room for your hands and the chaser to work. Jim then used a chase tool rest held under his left arm to support the chaser. He finds a speed between 200 and 500 rpm to work. Find what feels good to you.

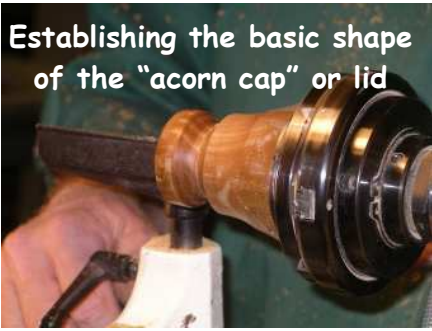
The Outside of the lid was then given its final shape and parted off. The base of the acorn was then turned round and a small tenon turned just the size of the inside threads. A larger tenon was then turned to add the thickness of the threads. These threads are cut with the chaser placed in front of the piece and held down like a scraper. Smooth and easy does it. A rebate was also cut at the end of the thread area to allow the chaser to be pulled away.

After the final thread was made, the inside was cut out and sanded. The top was then screwed on to the base so the finishing of the top could be done. The base was then finished on the outside and parted off.

A great demo for all of us to learn from. Jim even showed us how to cut threads with a 1/4 x 20tpi bolt ground in half lengthwise. A cheap way to cut threads, but it worked! You only have to turn 50 to 100 pieces before you get this down they say!!



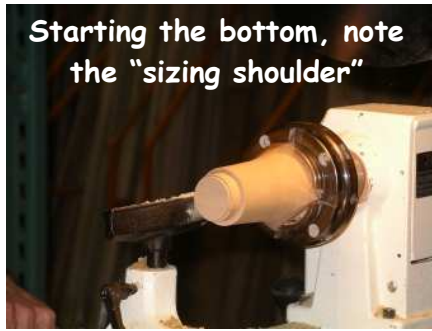
Establishing the basic shape of the "acorn cap" or lid



Cutting the inside thread...



Starting the bottom, note the "sizing shoulder"



Top threads done, inside finished, ready to part off



Cutting the threads on the outside



Finish cuts on the top using the body as chuck



Demonstrating inside threads with a flat ground bolt!



Outside threads with shop made bolt thread cutter



Nice clean cut threads



A sample of Jim's threaded box work, Nice Job!



### Utah Woodchips

the official newsletter of the Utah Association of Woodturners

#### 2006 to 2009 Club Officers

President Dave Best  
801.298.2176  
639 East 1650 South,  
Bountiful, UT 84010  
davidbest2176@msn.com

Vice President Bob Carter  
801.879.6566  
5478 Brandonwood Dr.  
SLC, UT 84123  
blcarter@comcast.net

Sec/Treasurer Dave Bouwhuis  
801.773.3649  
445 N. 725 W.  
Clearfield UT 84015

CD Rom Bob Carter  
801.879.6566  
blcarter@comcast.net

Editors Jay & Vernita Brown  
801.942.0197  
vermama@comcast.net

Publisher Dennis Brown  
801.891.4471  
denloclan@comcast.net

Webmaster Russell Bateman  
801.371.0431  
russ@windofkeltia.com

Hospitality North End  
John Kartchner 801.710.3918

Hospitality Salt Lake  
Michael Przybyla 801.571.7308

Hospitality South End  
Phil Taylor 801.374.2524  
Kirk DeHeer 801.373.4324

Entire contents copyright 2006 by Utah Association of Woodturners

Be sure to look at our club shirts, hats and videos on our Club Website:

[utahwoodturners.org](http://utahwoodturners.org)

**Utah Association of Woodturners**  
**2276 E. Andermatt Circle**  
**Sandy UT 84093**  
**utahwoodturners.org**

**Utah Association of Woodturners**

The Utah Association of Woodturners was formed in 1988 and is a local chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

**Meetings** - first Tuesday of each month at various shops or wood stores that support our club  
 Refreshments 6:30  
 Meeting 7:00 - 8:45 pm

You are invited to attend and become a part of the group. For more information contact any club officer.

Dues begin July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year:  
 \$25.00 full year  
 \$20.00 three quarters  
 \$15.00 half year  
 \$10.00 last quarter  
 Spouse \$10.00

**Training Meeting**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday—7 pm**  
 Woodcraft Supplies  
 9891 S. 500 W.  
 Salt Lake City

Mt. Green Turnathon will be held on Saturday, May 19th. We'll begin around 9 a.m. Lunch will be provided. Plan on joining us for a fun day of turning together.

**Turners Challenge**

**Mar (for Apr. meeting)**  
 Bird house

**Apr (for May meeting)**  
 Threaded box

**May (for June meeting)**  
 Segmented

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 9th. A segmented turning workshop will be held at MacBeath with Malcolm Tibbetts. We will meet at 9 a.m. Cost is \$25 and includes lunch. Sign-up soon.

