

UTAH WOODCHIPS



Message from the President

December, 2011

Hello Wood Turners,

Well, here we are at the end of another year! I can hardly believe we have just about finished another one! Thanksgiving is behind us and hopefully we are putting the final touches on our *Christmas* projects. I must admit to being a bit of a romantic when it comes to the holidays. I love this time of year, as it seems to me that the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons brings out a better part of people in general.

I wanted to extend a special Thank You to Timberline for helping us out with our November meeting. Richard and his team really came through for us! They had to move a ton of equipment to make room for us. Thanks also to Mike Hyer, who did a really nice job demonstrating sphere turning. I for one was really impressed! Read more about that in Lauren's article inside.

On December 6th we will be holding our Christmas party at the South Salt Lake Columbus Community Center. We will have no demonstration that night, but will serve our Prime Rib dinner starting at 6:00 pm. Remember to bring your pot luck items and be there in time to join us for dinner. Also remember to bring your hand turned gift wrapped items for the gift exchange at the December 6th meeting. Please bring one item for each person who will participate in the gift exchange.

Our January 3rd meeting will tentatively be at High Mountain Forrest Products just off Redwood road. Sid Nixon and his team are always great to work with, and we are really grateful for the chance to meet there. Remember that they don't have many chairs, so bring your own. Get there early enough to make your purchases and still be ready for our meeting to start promptly at 7:00. Please remember to support our friends and sponsors with your business. Our quarterly training meeting is scheduled at Woodcraft at 7:00 pm on Jan 18th. In the last training meeting we finished embellishments, and we have no topic yet so give us your input.

We are still looking for volunteer to take over the Salt Lake area hospitality duties. Lauren and RuthAnn Gibbs have been covering along with all of their other duties, but we really need someone to volunteer. After the Christmas party, we will not do hospitality anymore if we don't get a volunteer. It's an easy job, with duties only 6 or 7 times per year. If we want to continue to have a club, we need some help folks!

I am always seeking your input on how we can make the club better, so please send me an email message and make your feelings known.

Remember to bring your turners challenge and show and tell items to each meeting. Our thanks again go out to Craft Supplies, who provides the Gift Certificates we award for the turners challenge.

Let me know how we can better serve you! woodturnerjay@comcast.net.

Have fun, be safe, and try to make more than shavings!

-Jay Brown

Regular Monthly Meeting (first Tuesday) 7:00 p.m.

Dec 6th — Christmas Party-
Columbus Community Center 2530
South 500 East, SLC - 6:30 p.m.
Directions: From 2700 South turn
north on 400 East. Drive to 2530
South and enter through the back.

Jan 3rd — TBA

Feb 7th — TBA



Michael Hyer shared his talents
with us in November

NOW AVAILABLE: The 2011
Utah Woodturners Symposium DVD
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We also have CD's back to 1999

The CD is **compatible** with **PC** and **Mac**
Cost \$25.00 each and includes shipping

If you would like to buy a DVD or CD at
the club meeting, they are available for
\$20.00 by saving shipping costs



**Thank you to
Timberline for
hosting us.**

**Jay gets the
meeting underway**



**Nice crowd at
Timberline**

Blank Mounted



Utah Woodchips
the official newsletter of the
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Mike Hyer – Spheres

Mike did a great job of showing us two ways to turn spheres. He started out by explaining that if you have two views of an object and they are perfect circles, then you have a sphere. That's the basis of turning a sphere. When you have one dimension, you have a cylinder; that's the easy part. The key is to make the second dimension a perfect circle that matches the first dimension's circle, and then you have a perfect sphere.

Mike started out with a 3 ¼ x 3 1/8 piece of Norway maple from the city's green waste site. He mounted it between centers. He wants it to be skinnier in diameter than it is lengthwise. After rounding the blank, Mike parts the ends down to make a relief for the centers. He doesn't want the marks from the spurs to end up in the finished sphere. The cylinder ended up being 2 7/8" long. This measurement was transferred to calipers and with a parting tool, the diameter of the cylinder was marked and the cylinder was turned down so the diameter and length were identical.

Mike reminded us about how important grain orientation is in all projects. Right now, the grain is running with the lathe. In order to have the grain supported and avoid tear out, the cuts should be from the middle out to the ends (or largest diameter to the smallest).

To rough out the sphere, Mike found the center (which was 1 7/16") and marked it with a pencil. This line is his base marker. He then turned each hemisphere leaving them slightly oblong (from center out). This he does so he doesn't cut too much off. Always err on the side of being oblong which can be rectified later. On the ends, Mike left a shoulder with a pencil mark as a reference to where the sphere will end.

Mike then made a jam chuck that held the sphere just short of the center line. The sphere was mounted by using the center of the tail stock to push it in until it started to crunch. Then using the reference marks, Mike used light cuts with his spindle gouge to take off the tenon and finish rounding out the sphere. This was done on both ends. With the sphere oblong, Mike needed to open up the jam chuck a bit more so it would fit the sphere when it was rotated 90 degrees. When it is oblong, the sphere leaves a gap at the top and the bottom of the jam chuck.

When the sphere is mounted into the jam chuck, the center line needs to be exactly at 90 degrees. When the lathe is turned on and the line makes a dot, it means it is at 90 degrees. The crisper the dot, the more perfectly at 90 degrees it is. After getting a good dot, Mike used light cuts to take the sphere down until the center line just disappeared. Her pointed out that with the sphere and grain rotated 90 degrees, the cuts went from the center to the outside (smallest diameter to the largest). After modifying the jam chuck to fit the finished side, the second half was turned down in the same manner, being very careful when blending the two halves together. The jam chuck was then used for sanding.

When sanding Mike starts with the grain running along the axis of the lathe and the lathe turning around 500-600 rpm. He rotates the sphere 180 degrees and does the other half. In theory, if you sand in 6 different orientations, you will get good coverage. He accomplished this by turning it 90 degrees and sanding again. He told us to be careful when we pull the sphere out of chuck so we don't drop it. I wonder why he thought to remind us about that...

For the next method Mike used a nice piece of marblewood. He mounted it in a 4-jaw chuck and turned a cylinder, partially parting it off so the length matched the diameter he wanted for the sphere. He then marked the center line and finished parting it off.

To make a jam chuck, Mike used pointed calipers and measured the blank diagonally from one corner to another and used the measurement for the inside diameter of the jam chuck. He then put the cylinder flat into the jam chuck so the four corners grabbed the inside wall of the jam chuck and the center line made a dot when the lathe was spinning. Starting with the corners and using nice light cuts, Mike rounded the blank using the center line as a guide the same way he did the first sphere. The shadow shows you how much you need to take off. As long as you can see shadow, you know you still have more to take off. When corners start to merge, you are getting close to a perfect sphere. After finishing the first half, Mike made another jam chuck that almost fit the outside diameter of the first hemisphere, rechecked the piece and then turned the other side, sanding it the same way as the first sphere. When completed it was a beautiful sphere. I bet it looks even better when a finish is applied

Here are some of Mike's tips for turning spheres:

- If you don't cut well and you have to sand a lot, it may not end up being a sphere.
- Be careful as you merge; too much or too little and you will get undulations.
- A sphere can be the basic shape of the blank: a sphere hollow form, a sphere calabash bowl, a sphere box, and more. This is just the beginning of what this shape can do for you..
- When turning curves, your stance is important. Weight shifts from one leg to the other. Don't move the tool, just shift your body.
- Making spheres teaches you a lot about grain orientation and jam chucking.
- Use a spindle extender to get your work further from the head stack.
- If you haven't measured correctly, it is difficult to get it perfectly turned 90 degrees into the jam chuck.
- While shear scraping isn't the best way to cut wood, it works well to get a curve.
- Spheres show the grain of the wood. They will show all the possible grain orientations.
- Slight cracks don't generally bother spheres unless they are extremely deep.
- Scrapers are okay to use if you have a negative rake. They keep you from grabbing things you don't want to grab.

....Lauren Gibbs



Setting the diameter of the sphere with a caliper measurement



Starting the transition from cylinder to sphere



Marking the precise center



Sphere taking shape



First Jam chuck left over from a previous project



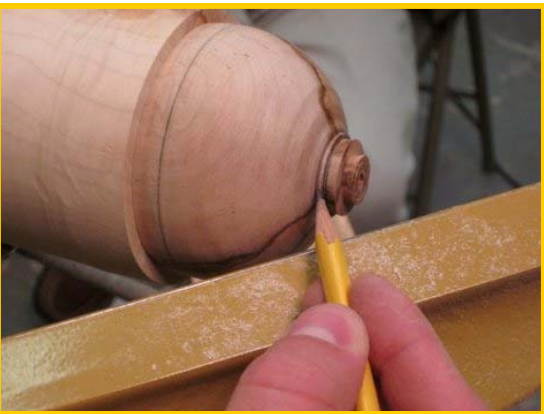
Mike keeps his jam chucks for the next project. Note the short one, nearly used up!



Jam chuck mounted and making it fit the sphere



Sphere mounted in jam chuck



Making a mark to check if its centered



Taking off the nub



Making the chuck bigger to accept the sphere when he turns it



Sphere re-mounted in jam chuck



Looking good



Nice easy cuts



Mike shows a sample of a sphere where he did not do so well



Ready for next mounting and cut



Shortening the chuck to get a smaller diameter



Checking to see if the sphere is centered



Making an adjustment



Sanding the sphere



Next
technique —
Blank
mounted



Making
sure he
has an
Accurate
center
reference
line



Parting
off the
cylinder



Measuring
the length



Measuring
the jam
chuck
opening



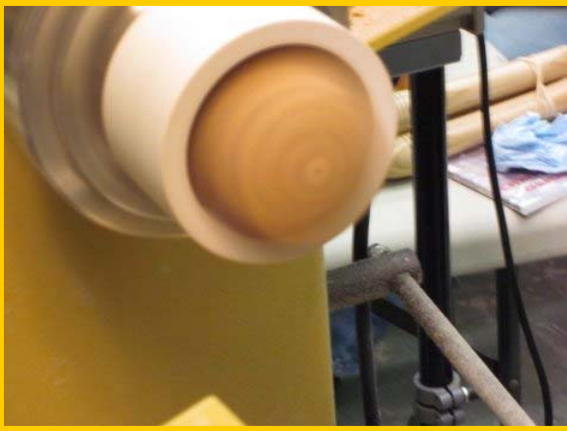
Making
the
opening
larger to
accept the
blank



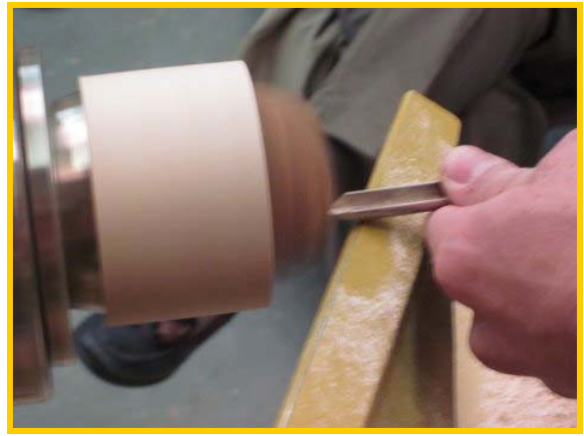
Mounting
the blank



Making
sure the
blank is
secure



Blank mounted in chuck



Gentle, controlled cuts, always towards the jam chuck



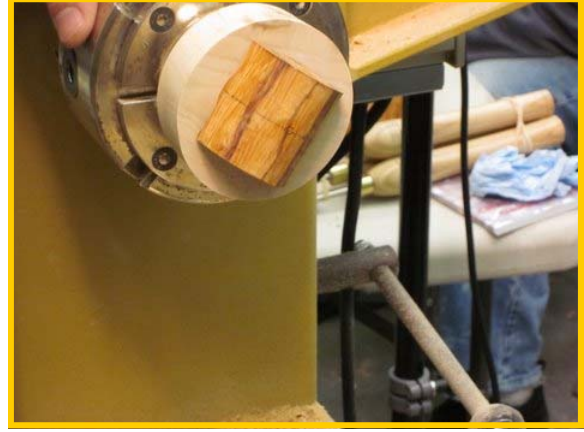
First series of cuts complete



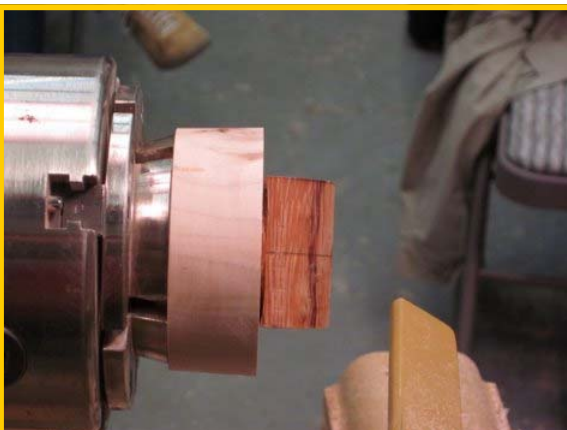
Marking exact centers



Blank removed from first jam chuck, ready to be reversed in smaller jam chuck



Blank reversed and remounted in smaller jam chuck



Side view of remounted sphere



Again, gentle cuts toward Jam chuck



Using a mallet to "true up" the sphere in the chuck



Final cuts



View of finished sphere before removing it from the jam chuck



Amazing Finished Sphere looks great!!



Sample of some of Mike's Spheres



Lots of Show 'n Tell



Upcoming Turner's Challenges

Dec (for Jan meeting)

Ornament

Jan (for Feb meeting)

Spheres or Eggs

Feb (for Mar meeting)

Your Choice





Merlene Crapo made this beautiful quilt depicting woodshop tools



*Club DVD's
for sale*



Month/Year	Demonstrator
August-06	Dave Best - Segmented Demo
September-06	Joe Wagner - Christmas Ornaments
October-06	Jay Brown - Spalted Captive Ring Bowl
November-06	Bob Carter - Jim McPhail's Layered Bowl
February-07	Mike Hyer - Square Edge Bowl
March-07	Jim McBride - Threaded Acorn Box
April-07	Lynn Jacobson - Techniques in Segmenting
May-07	Joe Wagner - Puttin' the Spin on a Spatula
June-07	Kirk DeHeer - Square Edge Bowl
July-07	Tom Sorensen - Three Legged Milking Stool
August-07	Bob Carter - Honey Locust Goblet
September-07	Joe Wagner - Turning an Acorn Birdhouse Ornament
November-07	Doug Turner - Donut Box
December-07	Joe Wagner - Getting Nimble with a Thimble
February-08	Mike Mahoney - Finishes and Burial Urn
March-08	Jay Brown - Layered Polygonal Bowl
April-08	Paul Chilton - Perfect Peppermill
May-08	Dennis Brown - Weed Pot
June-08	Kirk DeHeer - Bowls and Grinds
July-08	Dave Best - Simple Spindles
August-08	Joe Wagner - Baby Rattle
September-08	Chris Pytlík - Dyed Vessels
October-08	Joe Wagner - Sea Urchin and Plastic Globe Ornaments
November-08	Doug Turner - Rose Engine Lathe
December-08	Bob Carter - French Rolling Pin
February-09	Paul Chilton - Platter Possibilities
March-09	John Kartchner - Beautiful Boxes
April-09	Joe Wagner - Dynamic Ducks (Off center turning)
May-09	Dave Best - Footless Salad Bowl
June-09	Mike Mahoney - Hawaiian Calabash Bowl
July-09	Larry Banz - Tasteful Tulips
August-09	Stuart Davey - Volcano Shaker
September-09	Bob Carter - Wedding Goblets
October-09	Joe Wagner - Banded Christmas Ornament
November-09	Jay Brown - Christmas Gift Ideas
December-09	Dennis Brown - Harry Potter Wand
January-10	Mike Mahoney - Madrone Nested Bowl Set
February-10	Steve Howe - Travel Mug
March-10	Mike Swenson - Natural Edge Bowl
April-10	Tom Sorensen - Candelabra
June-10	Kirk DeHeer - Threaded Box
August-10	Dave Best - Halloween Ornaments
September-10	Lauren Gibbs - Ring Holders
November-10	Gordon Nichol - Precision Boring
January-11	Mike Mahoney - Trio
February-11	Joe Wagner - Small Scoop
March-11	John Kartchner - Bird's Mouth Bowls
April-11	Kirk DeHeer - Tornado Shakers & Sharpening
May-11	Cleod Christiansen - Metal Spinning
June-11	Dale Nish - Reverse Turning
July-11	Dave Bowhuis - Finials
August-11	Wayne Johns - Gavel
September-11	Dale Dallan - Inside Out Candlesticks
October-11	Joe Wagner - Christmas Tree Ornament
November-11	Mike Hyer - Spheres
Training	Bob Carter - Sharp as a Tack
Members	at \$8.00 each
Not a Member	at \$10 each

Remember if you have not paid your dues, please DO. We run our club with the money we receive from the dues you pay. THANK YOU!

For Sale or Trade Rough turned bowls, platters, etc. Call Kirk DeHeer 801-735-7858

Check these websites out

<http://www.timpwoodturners.org>
<http://www.wasatchpenturners.org>
<http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com>
<http://www.timberlinetools.com>
<http://www.macbeath.com>

FOR SALE

- Jet 1014 Mini Lathe 1/2 HP with Jet stand - \$350
- Jet JWL 1236 Variable Speed full size lathe with stand - \$500

Call Jay Brown
801-598-0780

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 1st of each year:

\$25.00 full year

\$20.00 three quarters

\$15.00 half year

\$10.00 last quarter

Spouse \$10.00

Calendar of Events

December 6th — 6:00 Club Christmas Party. Will be held at Columbus Community Center (2530 South 500 East) — no demonstration, just good food and company!

January 3rd — 7:00 p.m. High Mountain Forest Products Regular Meeting,

January 18th — Quarterly Training Meeting—Woodcraft, Sandy

*The Utah Association of
Woodturners would like to thank our
Premier sponsors...*



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