

UTAH WOODCHIPS



Message from the President

February, 2012

Hello Wood Turners,

The snow is finally here, and I hope that all of you have found your way into your shop to get turning. It's time to start turning all of those bowl and platter blanks you roughed out last summer! I finally got a few minutes in the shop this last week, and it was great to be able to turn without the "holiday rush". I don't know about you, but for me any turning that gets done in December seems to be kind of a "forced march" to finish the Christmas gifts I should have done earlier!

I was so happy about how our January 3rd meeting. Mike Mahoney did a great job talking about and showing finishing techniques. That meeting was our first ever at Salt Lake Community College. We met in the Construction Trades building Classroom on the Redwood Road Campus. Chad Fail was a great host, and I think the venue worked out pretty well. We also want to thank Glen Fenn for helping get everything set up. Glenn runs the tool room there, is wood turner and was a member of our club in the past. Chad and his staff seemed pretty pleased with the meeting and has invited us back as often as we would like to come. They have also offered to let us store our equipment there, which would be awesome if that's what we decide. We have planned the February 7th meeting there where Blaine Peterson will be demonstrating turning chess pieces and showing us his shop made jigs. I am looking forward to the meeting. Remember that this time the meeting will be held while classes are in session, so this will be the first time parking will be tested. Please car pool if you can, and remember that one schedule of classes dismiss at 6:45 so parking might be more available as those students leave the campus.

The directions to get there are as follows: From Redwood Road, turn west on Conifer Way which is 4610 South. Follow that street as it bends north and then back west to the second building. Look for the large lettering over a large roll up door that says "Construction Trades Building". Please park in either lot "B" which is right next to the Construction Trades Building or lot "C" which is just to the west. If you park anywhere else, you will get a ticket unless you have a SLCC parking pass. Enter the building by going up the metal stairs under the "Construction Trades Building" sign, just west of the giant tan painted dust collectors. Enter the man door at the top of the stairs on your left, and turn left into the classroom. The Demo will start at 7:00.

Our quarterly training meeting was held at Woodcraft on Jan 18th. Lauren showed small bowl coring, using the McNaughton Center Saver system. He also talked a bit about captive rings. The next training meeting will be in April and we have not picked a topic so let us know

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Regular Monthly Meeting

(first Tuesday) 7:00 p.m.

Feb 7th 7:00 p.m. — SLCC
See President's message for
directions and parking

Mar 6th — TBA

Apr 3rd - TBA



Mike Mahoney shares his
knowledge on finishes

**NOW AVAILABLE: The 2011
Utah Woodturners Symposium DVD**

**2010 Utah Woodturners Symposium
DVD is still available**

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



Jay getting the meeting going

Our new meeting venue at SLCC Campus



Great crowd



Utah Woodchips

the official newsletter of the
Utah Association of Woodturners
2010 to 2011 Club Officers

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Hospitality South End - **WE NEED YOUR HELP**

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what you want to see. Please email me or Lauren Gibbs with your ideas.

We are looking for a volunteer to take over the South area hospitality duties when we meet South such as at Timberline or Craft Supplies. It's an easy job, with duties only 3 or 4 times per year. If we want to continue to have a club, we need your help folks!

Remember that Symposium is coming up in May. Our club has been asked to donate 200 pen blanks to give away as part of the sale of raffle tickets for EOG drawing, so we need to produce them quickly! Please tell Lauren how many you can bring to the March and April Meetings.

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

Mike Mahoney—Finishes

For our January meeting we met at the Salt Lake Community College Construction Trades Building. Chad Fail (runs the program), Bob Lurker (the Big Boss), and Glen Fenn (Maintains the Shop) are excited and dedicated to having a partnership with our Club. Chad is dedicated enough that he left his son's hospital room (his son had surgery that day) to be at our first meeting. If you want to take advantage of a wonderful shop and program, I would encourage you to look at the classes they are offering, If you are over 62 and retired you can audit classes for a very reasonable fee. They are working on a display cabinet so students can see some of the things that can be done on a wood lathe and are excited to have us provide pieces to put in the display. For future meetings at SLCC, remember that free parking is going to be limited to a small area and students will be parking there also so you may want to car pool if you can. Please pay attention to the parking instructions so you don't get ticketed. If you get a ticket, you are on your own. It cannot be fixed for you.

Not only did we have a great place to meet but we also had a great demonstration on finishes by Mike Mahoney. Mike talked about the different finishes, their advantages and disadvantages, and when to use or not to use each finish. To Mike, understanding why we put a finish on anything is important to the longevity of how our work will be used and admired.

Mike has several considerations for finishes:

Ease of application or skill needed to apply

Durability

Reparability

Toxicity

Marketability

Cost

Drying time and ventilation needed

Considerations can be in any order. For Mike, marketability is #1. Shiny objects are preferred by the general public.

In order to keep things simple, Mike broke finishes down in two categories: Films and penetrating oils.

Films: Polyurethane, acrylics, varnish, shellac, waxes, lacquers, CA glue, epoxy.

Penetrating oils: mineral, vegetable, nut, linseed, Tung, Danish, Motor oil.

Here are some of Mike's thought on different finishes:

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Film Finishes:

A lot of these products are very flammable. He stores these products in a different structure.

Film finish on kitchen items ends up looking terrible.

Film based finishes, when wet, are very toxic to humans. Avoid breathing the fumes and contact with the skin. To the general hobbyist, it isn't as big a deal. Toxicity is of concern to the creator. The finished products are probably not as toxic to end user.

Pros of varnish (polyurethane mixed with other carriers like mineral spirits that are slow to dry): Durable, moisture barrier, but would not hold up to a knife. Water based is more durable than oil based, but water based doesn't look as good.

Epoxy: Tough to apply. Low viscosity epoxy is a self-leveling finish and easier to use. Do the bottom first and let it level. Then do the sides separately.

Wiping Varnish: Polyurethane that has been thinned with mineral spirits.

French polish: A wax blended with ether, beeswax, or shellac. Mike's experience is that it isn't durable. It is easy to apply to small-diameter work. On anything over 4" diameter, it will dry by the time you get around it and will get tacky and lumpy. Don't smell it...It will give you a very strong hangover. French polish comes off too easily. Not good finish for a pen, but everyone uses it because it is easy to apply.

Best finish for pens: probably CA.

Waxes are typically blended with toxic stuff. The Mahoney wax is not. Don't apply wax over an oily surface. Wax likes friction.

Shellac has no durability. It is easy to apply and repair but decays quickly so it is out. Films are generally bad for salad bowl.

Polyurethane – very difficult to work with but is probably one of most durable. Argument for NOT using for salad bowl and dinner plate: a knife would cut right through the finish.

Penetrating oils:

Mineral oil: Excellent wood finish but it evaporates quickly. It is a substitute for walnut oil because it is easy to apply, cheap, and food safe. Most commercial butcher block tops, salad bowls, etc. are finished with mineral oil.

Vegetable oil: People avoid them but they are simple. Vegetable oils need to be reapplied regularly. Olive oil is excellent.

30 weight motor oil: a lot of people in Australia and Asia use it.

Nut oils: typically walnut or almond as they are the only two that will dry. They don't dry well and associated with allergies. Legume (Peanut) allergies tend to be worse than walnut. A rule of thumb on nut oil Allergies: If the liquid is clear, it is safe for you; if not, not safe as the protein that causes the allergy is present.

People are not nearly as allergic to oil as they are to film finishes; they just don't relate their symptoms to the finish. A great nut oil finish is walnut oil furniture finish. Mahoney's walnut oil is just walnut oil.

All oil finishes pretty much darken the wood and intensify the contrast in the wood grain.

You wouldn't be putting Danish oils on objects in a gallery because of the strong smell.

Mike doesn't see any benefit of Tung over linseed. Tung oil is expensive and has a moisture barrier. Side by side, he can't see a difference.

Here are examples that Mike brought to the demo and how he finished them:

Poplar with African blackwood handle (threaded) cookie jar. Mike wants it to be an heirloom, so he uses a finish that will last. It will be okay for polyurethane because it is not going to be washed constantly. Mike used a very light polyurethane. It is a fast drying gloss cut 50% with mineral spirits. He wiped it on, let it dry, used a bit of steel wool, blew it clean, then applied it again. This piece probably has 5 coats of polyurethane. Mike recommends you sneak up on the finish by wiping on a very fine coat. Make it a penetrating oil by thinning. That way it doesn't dry as fast and isn't as difficult to work with. The cookie jar is sanded to 400.

Oblong bowl, This is finished with thinned polyurethane. There is no way to cover the whole vessel without it getting tacky. Wipe it on then wipe it off. Mike doesn't like it as a solid finish as it looks too plastic. This bowl is made from ash that warped when dried)

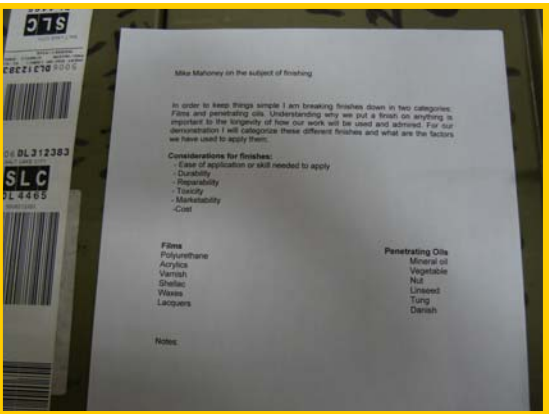
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Some of Mike's work



Plates, platters and bowl



Read Lauren's article for explanations of the pictures



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Classic form The shine is what attracts people. Mike recommends two finishes: Homemade Danish oil with a spray lacquer over the top.

This particular piece probably has only 15 minutes of finish work on it. It has no function whatsoever, so it is an artistic piece. The deciding factor in a finish is its marketability. Think of it as a hood ornament

Dinner plate. This has no finish. Mike would put a on finish if he were to sell it, but in his own kitchen he has no finish. The finish will not preserve it.

Tasmanian platter. This has a Danish oil finish. It is a homemade oil, is durable, and has no film. The finish on this will probably never have to be redone. However, the smell is very strong

You don't need a finish on **kids' toys** because they will chew on them...

The bottom line is to learn about each finish and choose the finish that best fits the needs of your project.

Here is the recipe for one of Mike's finishes. Most of the items can be found at Home Depot. The numbers in parenthesis is the proportions Mike likes to use; the other is proportions for a standard Danish oil:

1/3 boiled linseed oil (10)

1/3 odorless mineral spirits (50)

1/3 polyurethane gloss (never matte for anything) (40)

Japan dryer says on lid how much to use.

All amounts can be adjusted to meet individual needs and preferences.

If the finish dries to a film, you have used too much polyurethane.

Mineral spirits will evaporate over time, so keep a tight lid on it.

Grinding

Mike then showed us how he sharpens his bowl gouges. Mike pointed out that a Manufacturer can't determine what each individual wants out of a tool, so you need to adjust the tool to make it work for what you want. The degree of sharpness changes with the hardness of the wood: 45 degrees works with softer woods, harder woods need a less sharp angle. The key is to have the angle accurate and consistent all the way around the cutting edge. How far you go down the sides is personal preference. The farther you cut it back, the more versatile the tool. Mike likes his bevel about 40 degrees. This gets into substrate with less energy. The duller the edge, the more difficult to get into the wood, 40 degrees is more aggressive but not so aggressive that it becomes a catching point.

Mike uses an aftermarket platform on the grinder; he adjusts it to the angle he wants. With the tool lying flat on the platform, the same angle can be kept on tool. The rest will need to be adjusted as the grinding wheel gets smaller. Mike likes this over a Jig because a Jig can never get the same angle all around. If the tool has the wrong angle on the sides, it can become too sharp and self-feeding. Super sharpness on sides grab.

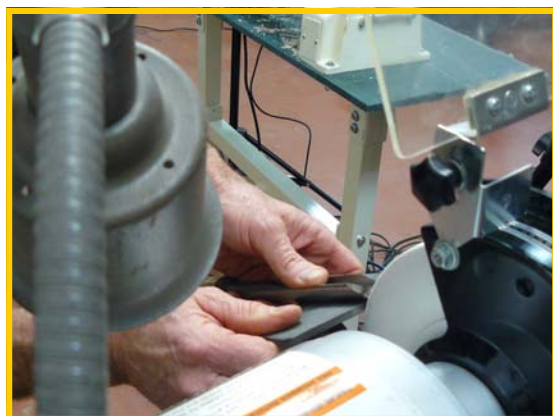
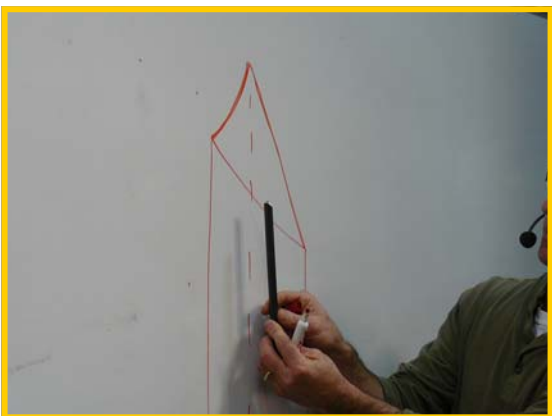
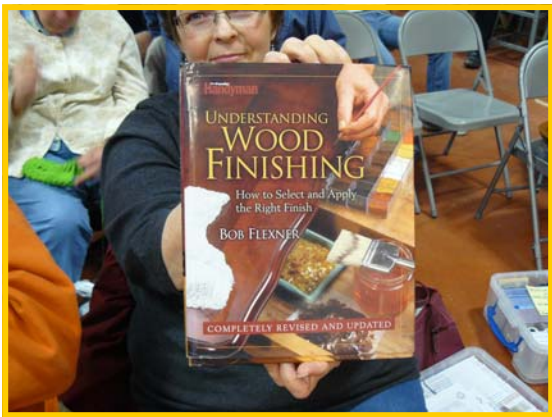
To get the angle the same on the top of the tool as the bevel take the flute of tool, plant it face down on the platform, and put the tip of the tool straight into the grinding wheel. Now you have the same angle on the front side as you have on back. This makes the surface concave. To make it convex or straight, pick the tool up off the platform and run it up the grinding wheel.

To sharpen the bevel, squeeze the tool onto the platform flute facing up and hit the nose of the tool completely. Hit both sides. Then like a pendulum, bring the tool around to meet every edge of the tool. If you look at the tool from behind or in front, it looks like a little sharp spoon. You want the tip to be a nice arc. If you put too much time in on the nose it can develop a divot. You want a single point at the top of the tool because anytime a spinning object hits a tool, it grabs it and goes for the point.

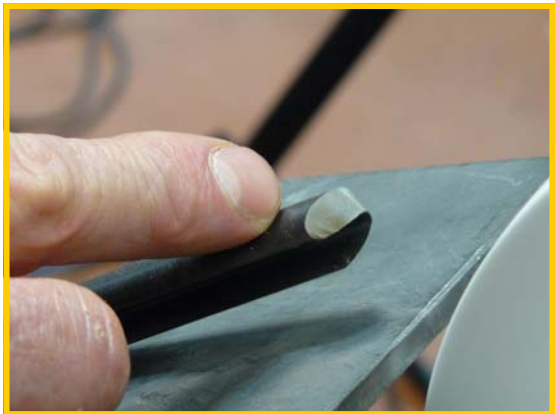
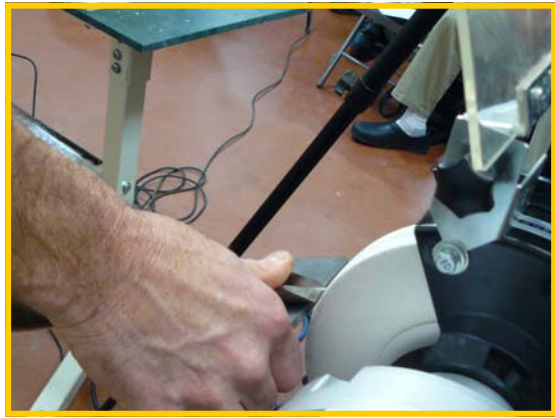
Mike has a great video on YouTube called "Tool Design and Grinding with Mike Mahoney." It is worth watching. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4m8-8MNhpvY>

We want to thank Mike and SLCC for a great night.

...Lauren Gibbs



18 Boiled linseed oil
50 Odorless mineral spirits
40 Polyurethane gloss
Japan Daxen



Show 'n Tell



Upcoming Turner's Challenges

Jan (for Feb meeting)

Sphere

Feb (for Mar meeting)

Anything Goes

Mar (for Apr meeting)

Show Off Your Finish

*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 Pytlik - 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	Clead Christiansen - Metal Spinning
June-11	Dale Nish - Reverse Turning
July-11	Dave Bowhuis - Finials
August-11	Wayne Johns - Gavel
September-11	Dale Dallon - Inside Out Candlesticks
October-11	Joe Wagner - Christmas Tree Ornament
November-11	Mike Hyer - Spheres
January-12	Mike Mahoney - Finishes
Training	Bob Carter - Sharp as a Tack
Members	at \$8.00 each
Not a Member	at \$10 each

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 - \$300
-

**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

February 7th — 7:00 p.m. —
Regular Meeting, SLCC

May 17th-19th—Symposium at
UVU

Get your registration in

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