

# UTAH WOODCHIPS



## Message from the President

September - 2007

Our meeting on September 4th was held at Timberline Woodworkers Supply in Orem where Joe Wagner demonstrated an acorn birdhouse ornament. The top of the ornament was textured using a "KN" series knurling tool from the metalworking industry. Joe provided a handout that included a complete diagram for building the ornament as well as a location to obtain the knurling tool. There is more about it inside and a demonstration DVD is available as well. Thanks for a great demonstration Joe! And thank you Timberline for your hospitality.

The third Thursday in September was spent making skew-chigouges and round skewes from 1/4" x 8" HSS tool bits. We ran out of tool bits so I'll have more available at the next meeting for \$2.50 each. The third Thursday in October will be a demonstration by the Robert Sorby representative at Woodcraft.

Our October 2nd meeting will be held at Craft Supplies in Provo where Kip Christensen will demonstrate for us. Kip is a Professor of Industrial Design in the School of Technology at Brigham Young University, a well known author and very talented woodturner. We are pleased to have him demonstrate for us.

November will be a busy month for us as well with our November 6th meeting to be held at MacBeath Hardwood. We will also have demonstration opportunity at Timberline Woodworkers Supply during their annual tool show. The dates are November 14 thru 17th. I will have a sign up sheet available at the next couple of meetings so we get good coverage on all days. Because the third Thursday in November is during the show our training meeting for that month will be held at Timberline as well.

Don't forget our Christmas party coming up December 4th at Woodcraft. There will be a potluck dinner at 6:00 pm followed by a demonstration on making thimbles by Joe Wagner, gift exchange and a prize give-away for current members.

The 2007 symposium DVD is now complete and available. The cost including shipping is \$35.00 but they are available at club meetings for \$30.00 saving shipping cost.

Remember to do the turners' challenge each month. The challenges are 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

## Regular Monthly Meeting (first Tuesday)

Oct. 2nd — Craft Supplies

1287 E 1120 S - Provo

Nov. 6th — Macbeath Hardwood

1576 S 300 W - SLC

Dec. 4th - Christmas Party

Woodcraft—9891 South 500 West

Sandy, Utah—6:00 p.m.



Joe Wagner  
demonstrates for us

**NOW AVAILABLE:** The 2007 Utah Woodturners Symposium DVD or CD

**2006 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 DVD or CD at the club meeting, they are available for \$30.00 by saving shipping costs

## Joe Wagner—Acorn Christmas Ornament

Joe starts with a 2" piece of hard maple for the body of the acorn ornament and brings it into a round. Joe makes lots of these ornaments. He has a V block mounted on his drill press and drills a 3/32" hole for the perch. He drills a 5/16" bird hole and then drills a 1 1/8" hole in the blank an inch deep just below the bottom hole. He uses a strap wrench to hold the blank while drilling and a centering block. He then puts the blank on Reardon jaws or a hard maple shop-made mandrel and brings up the tailstock and true's up the cylinder. He used a caliper to set the dimensions. He shapes the bottom of the ornament first, and then does the top to avoid splitting it. He backs off the tailstock and finishes cutting the pointed acorn bottom and sands through 400 grit, then grey beartex then white to polish and finishes with semi-gloss deft. Next he mounts the blank for the top. He uses 2" standard vic jaws and make a 1 1/8" tenon 2 1/4" x 2 1/4" x 2" tall. He makes the tenon to go into the body just 1/16" long and makes an undercut so both will mate well. He reduces the top diameter to about 2" and uses a round-end skew to cut the bottom and then to remove some weight from the cap. Make your cuts clean in this area because it is hard to sand. Then sand, beartex and finish. Use a cloth to cover the bed of your lathe. Now you are ready to knurl.

Joe gave us the pattern to make a knurling tool. Turn speed down to 500 or lower the tool rest. and press hard. Joe then turns the top over and grips it using a set of modified "dovetail jaws". For the rest of us who don't have a bunch of modified jaws and unlimited number of chucks, you can also make a jam chuck on a waste block attached to a faceplate. He then turns the shoulder. Joe uses a denture brush to clean out the knurling. He then finishes shaping the roof and keeps the tailstock up until he is nearly done. He uses a skew to make a center point and drills a 1/8" hole for the ball. He makes a cavity for the bead or ball to sit in, and then sands and finishes as before. Joe mentioned a technique he learned from another turner called "shear sanding" and those in attendance could relate." Apply the finish with the lathe off, dab the knurled part dry, and then polish the non-knurled part with the lathe on.

Joe makes a bunch of the beads and perches at a time so he doesn't have to stop and change everything out. He likes to use a fancy contrasting wood. He mounts a small blank, and then forms the ball with a round "skewchie" gouge and then makes the eighth-inch tenon and finishes the cuts with a small parting tool in a shear cut. He dishes out the back of the ball to ensure a good fit and makes a dimple for the drill, a number 57 bit; then sand and finish. He made the perch using the same shear cuts with a parting tool and sands and finishes as before. After parting off, he glues it together using titebond. He applies the glue into the perch hole with the back of a drill bit. Joe likes this ornament because it has only 4 parts and is straightforward to make.

It was asked what they should sell for. Joe said they should sell for \$35- \$40 in Utah and \$75-\$90 outside of Utah. He sold 90 at one Christmas show. Joe talked about design and recommends using a mirror and cardstock; draw a centerline on the cardstock, draw your piece, cut down the center and hold it against the mirror. This way both sides will be identical. If you don't like it, you can modify it.

Thanks, Joe. Great job, as usual.



Full house at Timberline



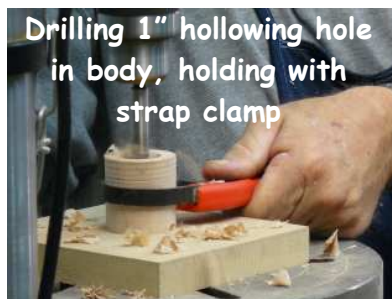
Joe's tools of choice



Body blank ready, rough turned, Centers marked



Drilling bird opening and hole for perch on V block at drill press



Drilling 1" hollowing hole in body, holding with strap clamp



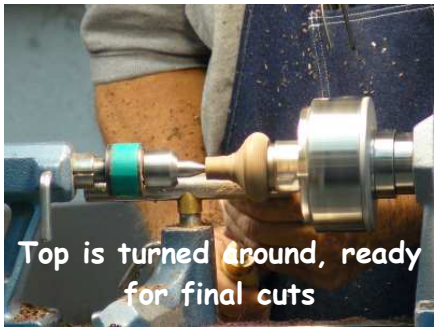
Refining "Acorn Shape" for body



Blank for top mounted in chuck



Top where it will join to body cut concave for a tight fit



Top is turned around, ready for final cuts



Joes "knurling tool"



Adding texture to top with "Knurling tool"



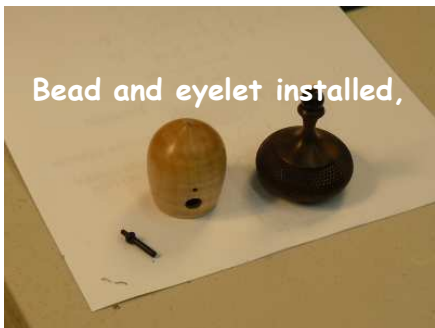
Top "Knurled" to give acorn appearance



Blank for perch mounted



Turning perch delicate work!



Bead and eyelet installed,



Beautiful Finished Ornament!

### Utah Woodchips

the official newsletter of the Utah Association of Woodturners

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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**  
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**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.



Some of Joe's Ornaments

**Turners Challenge**

**Sept (for Oct meeting)**

Milking Stool

**Oct (for Nov meeting)**

Goblet

**Nov (for Dec meeting)**



Turner's challenge this month .

Great job everyone!!!

