

Echos From the “BAT” Cave

Baltimore Area Turners

BALTIMORE AREA TURNERS

October, 2012

Volume 7, Number 10



BAT was stunned to learn of the passing of our President, Susan Shane (left), from complications of pneumonia. Her energy and creativity left an indelible mark on BAT.

A Special Edition of the Newsletter will commemorate her career at BAT.

SHOW AND TELL AND LIAM AND SADNESS

October was Show and Tell month. Many BAT members chose to answer the President's Challenge to turn an inlayed item (bottom right).

Irish turner, Liam O'Neill (bottom left) gave a demo the following week.

MORE INSIDE



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2012 Officers:

President
Susan Shane
Vice President
Yaakov Bar Am
Treasurer
Wayne Kuhn
Secretary / Newsletter
Richard Dietrich
Webmaster
Stephen Jones
Librarian
Don Bonsall
Public Relations
Susan Shane
Program Director
Bob Pegram





Larry Maccherone with inlaid bowl



Wayne Kuhn shows turned tool handle



Lou Rudinski with inlaid NE bowl



Bob Pegram with Maple burl bowl

SHOW AND TELL

A very diverse set of turnings shown and told about. A variety of items, woods, techniques, finishes, embellishments were on display.

Larry Maccherone – showed a Paris Japonica vase inlaid with chili powder and epoxy. He also showed a Red Oak bowl inlaid with a 50/50 mix of spackler and tinted plaster of paris. **Wayne Kuhn** showed a laminated handled screwdriver of Maple, (red wood) and ebony. **Lou Rudinski** – showed a Natural Edged Cherry Burl Bowl filled with turquoise Inlace. The burl had started to split during the turning and he repaired it with epoxy and clamping. **Bob Pegram** showed a Maple burl bowl with acrylic finish. **Don Keefer** showed Amphora #3 – Sapele, Padouk, and Maple and Amphora #4 – Cherry, Brazilian Cherry, Maple, and Ebony. **Charles Stackhouse** showed a Maple egg with a Wood7 hat and base and told the tale of losing several hats to the Beall buffing wheel. **David Smith** – showed several sets of turned earrings. These were done with a technique involving 4 different turnings, two of which were eccentric. The technique produces two mirror-image pieces. He also showed a turned scissors holder and etui made with the lost wood process. **Keith Holt** showed a white Oak turned and carved head as well as a set of three made of Big Leaf Maple Burl mounted on a painted Walnut Base. He sells these at shows. He stated he prefers to use Holly but has lost his supplier; someone suggested Hornbeam. **Yaakov Bar Am** showed a Cuban Mahogany bowl painted and gilded with metal leaf and chemically patinated. It is like his [blogged](#) piece “Lost in the Woods” He paints the bowl with black acrylic, masks it with Frisket, draws pattern of tree trunks and limbs, cuts away the spaces between the limbs with a sharp Xacto knife, applies sizing, then copper leaf. He gets the patina by using sodium sulfide which produces a variety of colors depending on how long it contacts the copper. Then it is finished with spray lacquer. He also showed a bowl strung with ‘Jingle Shells’ He indexed the 11 mounting holes with tape over the top edge and a divider. **Jim Oliver** showed an inlaid Ash bowl whose void had been filled with crushed lapis lazuli and epoxy. The Lapis was finely crushed and sieved. He said that the bowl should be pre-coated with sanding sealer to limit unintended color bleeding when doing the inlay. The Ash had also been bleached and treated with copper sulfate solution. He also showed a Yew bowl with coarsely crushed Turquoise inlay.



Don Keefer shows Amphora # 3



Charles Stackhouse's egg



David Smith with laminated holder



Keith Holt shows turned heads



Yaakov Bar Am shows his decorated bowl



Jim Oliver shows his inlayed Ash bowl



Louie Harris shows his tool.



Dave Mardt shows his segmented bowl



Pete Johnson gets help for his punky Birch bowl

MORE SHOW AND TELL

(Continued from Page 2)

Louie Harris showed four home-made tools. First, a wooden centering block to assist in holding a face plate in place while marking drill holes. Then, two tools ground from surplus Captive Ring Tools – a box edge scraper (similar to Cindy Drozda's) and a dovetail scraper for preparing tenons. Finally, he showed a round bottomed point tool made from a [Thompson steel rod](#).

Dave Mardt showed a bowl from a board made of a laminate of Maple and Sapele. He originally finished it with Danish Oil but didn't like how that darkened the maple; he turned off that finish, tried lacquer, turned off that finish and ended with a very thin walled bowl which he finished with Krylon spray acrylic. He also showed a slot vase made of Maple with Sapele inserts, painted black on the inside. **Pete Johnson** showed a roughed bowl of Yellow Birch scavenged from a golf course. The wood was punky and he requested tips in stabilizing it. Wood Juice and Polycril were recommended. **Ted Rein** showed his first green-turned bowl – made of Cherry. The bottom was textured with several texturing tools. **Jim Conlon** showed a walnut bowl made of a large piece of walnut he won in a raffle and had transported by motorcycle.



(above) Ted Rein shows Cherry bowl
(right) Jim Conlon showed a walnut bowl.





Yaakov Bar Am's Jingle Shell bowl



Charles Stackhouse's Egg



Larry Maccherone's inlaid vase



Dave Mardt's Maple and Sapele bowl

SHOW AND TELL PICTURES

Gallery photography was not available at the October meeting. Here are pictures of some individual items taken during the meeting.

Zoom in on these photos to see the exquisite detail.



Don Keefer's Amphora #3



Lou Rudinski's Cherry burl NE bowl



Jim Oliver's turquoise inlaid Yew bowl

MORE
SHOW
AND TELL
PICTURES



(Clockwise from left) Dave Smith's Earrings and etuis, Dave Mardt's Maple and Sapele vase, Ted Rein's Cherry bowl, Jim Conlon's Walnut bowl, Don Keefer's Amphora #4, Louie Harris' hand made tools, and Wayne Kuhn's laminated handle screwdriver.



Jim Oliver's inlaid Ash bowl



Keith Holt's turned and carved heads

LIAM O'NEILL DEMO

Liam O'Neill demonstrated to an SRO crowd on 10/17/12. He was in the area to visit his grandchild. He told of starting turning at age 19. He took a job as a woodworker, saw turning in action and found his calling. He worked to rehabilitate psych patients through woodworking; one former client is now a Brazilian furniture plant manager. He brought the Irish Grind to the US. David Ellsworth was his first convert, he said. Lately, he has been making large pieces with a chainsaw on a huge outdoor lathe. This is detailed on his [website](#).

He started his demo by turning a large piece of pine donated by Stephen Jones. He diagramed the form he was going for - a stack of components in a [Kipp Generator](#) shape. This would be bored through the center and made into a lamp base. Mounting the large piece between centers, he used a 3/4" bowl gouge to knock off the corners. ("I'm a bowl turner; I only use bowl gouges") The air filled with a lovely pine aroma as he roughed out the three components. After roughing out the center bowl he used his bowl gouge held almost upside down to attain a good finish. He showed a spindle gouge with swept wings and an abrupt square bevel which he uses to go to the bottom of a cove. ("You need a mercurial mind when it comes to tools.") He used a 1/2" spindle gouge to shape the outside of the bowls. Finally he undercut the base with a gouge - usually he finishes by removing the center with an angle grinder. He sanded it with 60-80 grit paper. Finally, he burned it with a blowtorch, then rubbed it with Scotch Brite held in a gloved hand (because of the dirt). This resulted in a dramatic contrast in the grain. He said he would typically finish this with Danish Oil.

He sharpens without a jig and creates a double bevel on his gouges.

For the second part of the demo he turned a platter from a beautiful 1" piece of Ambrosia Maple. He started by mounting it on a face plate. He trued up the edges, then, starting at the rim, he



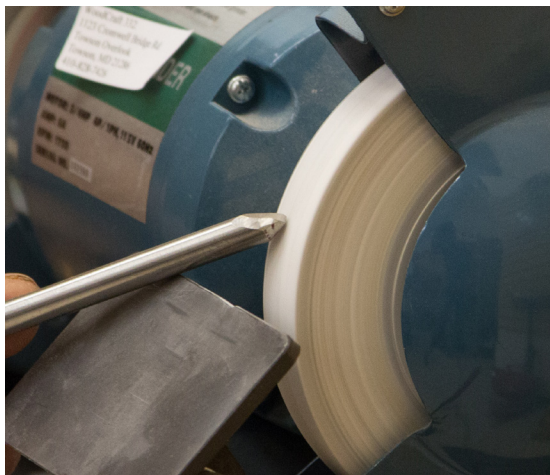
Liam O'Neill ready to turn



Pine blank partly rounded



Finishing cut for soft wood.



Hand sharpening double bevel



Finishing cut in action

MORE LIAM O'NEILL

began to true up the face. He explained that the most efficient way to hollow the surface was to hollow the center, then remove the remainder from the edge in. Unfortunately, by the time he had finished demonstrating this, he realized that he had hollowed what should have been the bottom of the bowl. Oops! Not letting the wood go to waste, though, he demonstrated how a light brushing stroke with a round-end scraper would smooth the surface. He then used a bowl gouge to shape the back and finally shear scraped that surface. He said that he would typically dry sand with 80-180 grits, then use 180, 240 and 320 wet-dry paper lubricated with Mineral Oil. For show, he will then use a shellac based sanding sealer (shellac with silica filler), then sand it with 320 wet-dry and mineral oil followed by 4-0 steel wool.

At the very end of the demo, he showed his chainsaw bar holder which mounted on the banjo of the lathe. He said that this arrangement was safe and could produce controlled cuts. He uses a similar arrangement for his outdoor turning.



Finishing with a torch



Rubbing off carbon



Hollowing the platter.



The platter surface - Lovely!



Torch enhanced finish



Liam holds BAT entranced.



Showing chain saw holder.

RAFFLE NEWS



Cherry, spalted Maple, Apple and Osage Orange splits, a power strip, Holly, Red Bud, and Mimosa logs and an Ash spindle blank were donated by BAT members. Thanks to all!

DOOR PRIZES WON

Door prizes of Woodcraft Gift Cards were given at both October meetings. The winner of the 10/10/12 door prize donated it back to BAT for use in the second meeting.

At the 10/17/12 meeting, Jim Oliver and Dana Thompson won the door prizes. Congratulations to our two winners!

BALTIMORE AREA TURNERS

Baltimore Area Turners meets every month on the second Wednesday of the month at the Greater Baltimore Woodcraft Store at:

1125 Cromwell Bridge Road
Towson, MD 21286

Next meeting:
November 14, 2012 at 6:30 PM

Agenda: Hands On



DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS

The term of the current Board of Directors expires at the end of the year. We plan to hold an election for the new Board at the November, 2012 meeting. This should help the new Board to hit the ground running in January, 2013.

Any member may run for office. Details of the office responsibilities are in the [BAT By-Laws](#).

The plan is to have all nominations finalized by 10/31/12 and a printed ballot will be distributed at the November meeting.