October 2008

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A Monthly Newsletter by Detroit Area Woodturners

Detroit Area Woodturners

SPICE RACK WRAP-UP

By: John Sabina

Twenty-two DAW members created a very nice gourmet spice rack built as a collaborative project. The project was displayed at the AAW Annual Symposium in Richmond, VA, in June. Our concept, developed by a committee of Mike Foydel, Kelly Friend, and the writer, was to store eighteen different spices (not herbs) in their raw form and then provide two spice grinders and a spice grater. Each spice was housed in a turned container built around a four-ounce plastic insert with a screw-on lid purchased from the Porter Bottle Company of Detroit. The spice containers were arranged on a two-tiered lazy susan with a large matched salt and pepper grinder beside on a small tray.

Each volunteer turner was provided with a laminated, segmented, or stave segmented blank, a plastic bottle with lid, and a set of requirements and brief instructions. Greg Smith built the laminated blanks, Chet Bisno the segmented blanks, and John Fitzpatrick the stave segmented blanks. Turners were free to use a different blank of their choosing provided all wood was native to Michigan. The requirements specified only a maximum height, maximum outside diameter, inside recess to fit the plastic insert, and a designed band for laser engraving the spice name. In the final analysis, only Bob Daily (curly maple), Harold Green (catalpa) and Vince Hellmann (staved cedar) chose to create their own blanks.

The following six pictures show the finished result. Each picture is labeled as to who built each piece. A very large thank you is in order to all who participated, even those who were unable to complete their piece when life got in the way. A special thanks goes to Greg Smith who assisted in the final assembly and packaging as well as Ray Frase who built the trays for the lazy susan.

Our entry was in the technical/mechanical class with two other entries. The entries were voted upon by Symposium attendees in a "people's choice" format. We did not win our class, which was won by an apparently functioning spinning wheel with take-up spool-a - very nice piece. The DAW spice rack was donated to the live auction at the Saturday-night banquet. Our entry earned the highest bid of the collaborative entries and sold for to the winning bidder for $475.00. Half of this amount was returned to the DAW and covered most of our collaborative project expenses. All and all, our 2008 collaborative effort was a fun and satisfying project. ***Great job, ladies and gentlemen!***

From the President

I would like to thank everyone that helped out at the Fall Festival last month. Several of us had fun turning ornaments, boxes, bowls, tops, and other small items. Danny Pawlak had the opportunity to make an ornament for someone that had just moved to the state. The recipient was very excited to have something that would mark her family's first Christmas in Michigan. Chet Bisno held an impromptu mentor session with a potentially new member and a lot of good sharing of information between members happened.

Now, on to the future; November is going to be a busy month. Once again, I am going to ask that some of you step up and volunteer some of your time. On November 15, we are hosting Don Derry for an all-day demo. We could use help setting up, preparing lunch, and cleaning up during this event. On November 16, we will hold our regular monthly meeting. The Woodworker's Show at the Rock Financial Center will be the weekend of November 21, 22, and 23. Here, again, we will need volunteers. We will discuss these upcoming events at our meeting October 19.

Your club president,

Frank

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October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Club Meeting @ 2:00 pm Nature Center	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Thank you to everyone that helped out at the Heritage Days Festival

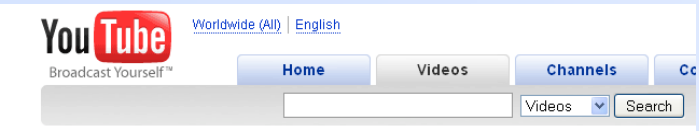
pictures on page 3

The woodworking show at Rock Financial Showplace, Novi, is November 21-23 keep the dates open for browsing the show and staffing our booth.

Save the Date:

November 15th. Donald Derry Demo - Shadbush Nature Center - 9:30am– 4:30pm
November 21-23 WoodWorks - Rock Financial Showplace, Novi
November 16th DAW Monthly meeting - Shadbush Nature Center - 2:00pm

Woodturning from



Sometimes, watching someone do something is as important to learning as actually doing it.

On the Internet, YouTube offers a variety of short videos that can offer help to the beginning turner and may be of interest to experienced turners. For example,

How do you turn a flower on a lathe.
Check out this site:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWWw5HHzvFw&feature=related

For the less experienced turners there are these sites.

Turning a spin top:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UDBprGjCrxE&NR=1

Turning a honey dipper:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fG_xYLJ4V78&feature=related

Sharpening a bowl gouge:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVWrT5LDeuA&feature=related

Turning a plate:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=udj9euwBEVE&feature=related

Turning a small vase:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ee5BkT3KBz4&feature=related

Pen making 101:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MA04cNlGXKY&feature=related

If you are historically minded, try these sites.

DaVinci's lathe:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQ3IiQyyb7Y

A treadle lathe:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xz61v6ac1vg&NR=1

These are only a few of the sites available on YouTube.

Why do people post movies on YouTube. The motivations seem to vary from commercial to "This is my ten minutes of fame." Jet Tools offers instructional materials while some men and women merely want to share their skills.

The main site can be accessed by typing **www.youtube.com**

There is a search box at the top of the site.. Simply type in a subject (i.e. turning a wooden bowl) and click "search."

Beware, however, that anyone can post a video here. Let's say that there are some not-so-serious folks out there. Separate the chaff from the wheat and enjoy some interesting woodturning videos.

Jerry Bufalini

Heritage Days Photos

A New Sphere Cutting Jig from Fred Lindsay

by Fred Holder

Back in December when I was working on the January 2007 issue, Fred Lindsay of Hendersonville, North Carolina contacted me concerning a possible review of the Sphere Cutting Jig that he has developed and is bringing to the market.

Fred ask me if I would consider doing a review on this new tool. Since making spheres has been one of my concentrated efforts in woodturning for many years, I agreed to test his unit. **(See Figure 1.)**

From the swivel point up, the tool is similar to the unit sold by Craft Supplies Ltd. in England, but there the similarity ends. I've owned one of the Craft Supplies Ltd. sphere turning rigs for several years. But, Fred has improved the method of clamping the cutting tool in place. He is furnishing a cutting tool with his unit. Craft Supplies Ltd. does not and recommends the use of a Bedan as the cutting tool, but the tool that Fred if furnishing with the jig is special ground from 3/8 inch tool steel. I feel it works much better than a Bedan for this operation.

Figure 1. The Fred Lindsay Sphere Cutting Jig pictured here is designed to fit onto my Nova DVR lathe with a 16 inch swing.

From the swivel point down, Fred's tool is a significant improvement over the one sold by Craft Supplies Ltd. Their unit was designed to fit into the tool post hole in the banjo. I was never able to get the banjo in exactly the right point for best results with that sort of mounting.

Figure 2. Starting the alignment of the jig so that the point or rotation (at the top of the shaft) is centered on the sphere blank. You can get approximate by setting the jig as shown here.

Fred's unit has its own base of good solid steel that holds the unit in proper relation to the sphere being turned and is fairly easy to position under the sphere to be cut. It is fitted with a bar that provides automatic centering of the unit under the axis of rotation, one of the two positioning factors that must be exact in order to turn a sphere. The second positioning factor is alignment with the center of the sphere to be turned. I begin this operation by visually aligning the unit so that the pivot point appears to align with the center line drawn on the sphere blank. **(See Figure 2.)**

I then swing the tool to either the right or left hand side and set the cutter to just touch the edge of the sphere blank as shown in **Figure 3 below.**

With the cutter locked, I then swing the cutter to the other side and check to see if it just touches the corner as shown in **Figure 4.** If the cutter does not touch the other corner, I tap the base with a plastic faced hammer to move the jig enough so that about 1/2 of the space is taken out. It sometimes takes two or three attempts to get this close. I then set the cutter to cut a bit and make cuts on both sides. I can then measure the distance on each side to the center line. When these measurements are the same, the jig is centered to the sphere blank.

continued

Figure 4.
Jig swung to the right to check alignment.

Figure 3. Swinging the jig to the left and set the cutter to just touch the corner of the sphere blank. The blank should be as wide as it is in diameter with a little extra toward the center for the drive and tail centers.

Once the jig has been centered, it is simply a matter of moving the cutter in a bit more and swinging to cut on both sides. Repeat this operation until the center line is just removed with a cut. At that point the sphere should be round as shown in **Figure 5.**

Figure 5. The sphere is now completed. The center line has just disappeared from the sphere.

At this point, the sphere cutting jig has done its part in the sphere turning operation. And there are several options for removing the tenons on the end grain ends of the sphere:

- You can mount the sphere between cup centers with the tenons 90 degrees to the axis of rotation and simply turn the tenons away with a spindle gouge.
- You can mount the sphere between cup centers with the tenons 90 degrees to the axis of rotation and set up the sphere cutting jig to turn away the tenons. I find it difficult to set up a sphere cutting jig exactly to do this operation.
- If you have a ball chuck of the right size with a hole in the bottom of the ball cup, you can place the sphere in the ball chuck, align the sphere properly with the tail center, and turn away the tenon with a gouge. **(See Figure 6.)** Reverse the sphere and turn away the other tenon.

I have used all three methods. For spheres that I have a ball chuck to fit, the latter method is best. For other spheres the first method is best. In all of the operations, this jig has performed very well. It is reasonably easy to set up and once set up and tightened down it is a very solid mounting. It will turn up to a 5 inch sphere.

As I said, you can use various forms of cutters as long as the shaft of the cutter is 3/8" (either round or square). The cutter Fred sent with the unit was ground from 3/8" square tool steel. I could have just as easily used a 3/8" Bedan or, a 3/8" spindle gouge or, as I tried, with a 3/8" Hunter tool without a handle. **(See Figure 7.)** I did turn one sphere with the Hunter tool used as the cutter. It cut a bit smoother that the tool supplied with the jig. It would have cut much better, if I could have rotated the Hunter tool to 45 degrees for cutting. Unfortunately, I could see no way to make sure that the depth of cut remained the same when the tool was rotated in the opposite direction for a cut down the second side.

Figure 6. The sphere set up in a ball chuck to turn away the tenon.

Figure 7. Sphere being cut with a Hunter 3/8" unhandled tool.

I've talked about the use of the tool and its performance, which was very good. Now, a little about the tool itself. The top portion of the tool (the part that holds the cutting tool) is a solid chunk of steel that is mounted to the swinging arm with two screws. A recess is cut into the top of the piece to accept 3/8" tools (either round or square). A plate on top is screwed to the block and is fitted with an adjustment knob to easily lock the tool in place. The other end of the swinging arm is attached to a piece of round steel rod that will fit inside a hole in the vertical shaft. A set screw in the vertical shaft enables one to lock the position of the shaft to place the cutter at center height of the lathe.

The hollow vertical shaft is only hollow part way down because it has a threaded extension on the bottom that fits through a hole in the base plate and extends down between the ways of the lathe bed. A plate (which is custom made to fit your lathe) with a threaded hole is slipped under the ways of the lathe bed and the threaded extension of the vertical shaft is screwed into it. This shaft is then rotated until the plate is pulled up under the ways and the centering section is between the ways, thus automatically centering the unit to the axis or rotation.

A flat for a wrench to tighten the jig to the lathe bed is milled on each side of the shaft. The wrench for Nova Chuck Inserts just fits over the two flats and can be used to tighten the unit to the lathe bed.

Fred says the price for this unit will be $160.00 plus post and packing, which will vary with your location. He accepts Cash, Checks and Visa and MasterCard. Contact Fred at:

Contact Fred at:

Fred Lindsay
150 Thrashing Rock Drive
Hendersonville, NC 28739
TEL: 828-692-3569
E-Mail: f.lindsay@mchsi.com

True American Wood

The chestnut oak (*Quercus prinus*),also called basket oak, cow oak,rock chestnut oak, rock oak, mountain oak or tanbark oak has an irregular native range, mostly in the U.S. Today the chestnut oak is still recovering (This oak is on the threatened species lists for Maine and Illinois.), but supplies are good. Rarely sold as chestnut oak or rock oak, it is usually mixed with white oak and others of the white oak group and sold as "white oak," selling, in the northeast, for less than red oak.

The narrow sapwood is light tan. Heartwood may be a rich light to dark brown. Transition from sapwood to heartwood is not well defined. The wood is considered very heavy, hard, strong and durable. It is quite similar to white oak but a little heavier than northern red oak (*Q. rubra*) and is quite stable in service.

Chestnut oak dries slowly with a great desire to warp and check. End sealing is important and air drying must be done with care. As is typical of the oaks, this wood is easily stained by contact with iron. The wood has no distinguishing odor when dry but leaves a slightly bitter taste. It is usually straight grained with a moderately fine texture. Like white oak, it has a quite pleasant figure from the ray effect in quarter-sawn lumber. Except in its better growing areas, chestnut oak does not usually produce much long, straight lumber. Chestnut oak is readily worked with power tools to produce smooth surfaces and crisp edges. Hand tools require more effort and care and must be very sharp. The wood has some dulling effect on cutting edges. Gluing calls for good adhesives and careful control. Fasteners hold very well, but pre-drilling is necessary to minimize an inclination to split along ray lines. This is an excellent steam-bending wood. Stains, oil or varnish work very well but those large pores require filling to get smooth finished surfaces. It polishes to a nice patina. The high tannic acid content in chestnut oak, especially in the bark, twigs and leaves but in significant quantity in the wood, results in toxicity causing eye, skin, lung and nasal passage problems. Appropriate precautions are well advised when working with this material, green or dry. ‘

The closed pores in chestnut oak produce barrels impermeable to stored liquids, e.g. water, spirits, molasses. An added benefit of the ubiquitous tannins is that they interact with ageing wines, especially reds, improving their quality and character.

Source:

World of Wood
JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOOD COLLECTORS SOCIETY
Volume 61, Number 3 May/June 2008

To support the preservation of this fine wood, visit: http://www.acf.org/

Segmented Turner's Symposium

November 14 - 16

Franklin, Indiana

Malcolm Tibbetts - AAW Board member has invited DAW membership to attend a unique event scheduled in November. This will be the first symposium exclusively organized for

"segmented" turners.

The dates are November 14th - 16th at the **Marc Adams School in Indiana.**
All the details are posted on the event website at: http://www.segmentedwoodturners.org/

WOODCRAFT®

Helping You Make Wood Work

I'll admit it up front. I am biased. **Woodcraft Supply** is my favorite toy store.

Walk in the front door and you will see a wide-open layout of great stuff from tools, wood, finishes, and—you name it! It's well lighted; everything is neatly and logically arranged. It's a guy thing.

There is a wide variety of very competitively priced wood from maple to redwood burl, pink ivory, and curly Narra for those you who like to turn large vessels. They have a large selection of lathes from Jet to Nova to Powermatic. If you are in the market for one, they will let you try it out before you buy it. How cool is that?

There is also a wide range of pen kits, acrylics and wood for pens.

Turning tools range from beginner sets to the latest Crown Tools-Pro PM turning tools and everything in between. Again, good prices.

Need the right finish for a specific wood? Woodcraft has it all from shellac to water-based to the new Velvet Oil that everyone is raving about.

The store atmosphere is very congenial. There are two areas where a tape or DVD are playing. This is not to advertise or sell, but to learn. Customers are encouraged to have a cup of coffee and watch at their leisure or browse the store.

Matthew Scher, the owner, once made his living making furniture on consignment. He practices his philosophy of woodworking and customer relations by trying out the tools and products in his store as much as he can, so that he can better understand his customers' needs and to make sure that the products he sells work as advertised. He is especially fond of bowl turning.

His staff is extremely helpful. They are all woodworkers and will answer your questions professionally. As a beginning woodworker and wood turner, I know I've asked them some –well—dumb questions. No one ever gave me that "You have got to be s… me?" look. Needless to say, I have learned a lot from them.

This includes the classes I've taken. To see a listing of the classes offered for the next three months, check out their website:

http://www.woodcraft.com/stores/store.aspx?id=321

As a "heads up," Matthew informed me that Lyle Jamieson will be coming to Woodcraft in February to teach classes Woodcraft will soon offer his unique deep-hollowing system. For more information on Lyle Jamieson: ***http://www.lylejamieson.com/***

I admit that I can resist any temptation – except to buy a new tool. And there is no other place I would rather buy one than at Woodcraft Supply.

Even my wife likes the place. Go figure!!

Jerry Bufalini

WOODCRAFT
39245 Van Dyke Highway
Sterling Heights, MI 48313
Phone: (586) 268-1919

Don Derry Demonstration
November 15th

Periodically DAW has an opportunity to host a professional woodturning demo without bearing the full cost. Such is the case with Don Derry from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM on Saturday, November 15 at the Shadbush Nature Center. Since timing is critical, it is important that we know who is coming ASAP. So Please either send or bring your application to the next meeting on October 19. Greg Smith is also hosting Don Derry three hour airbrush workshops ($50) at his home November 11 -13. Contact Greg at the September meeting or **GregSsmith@aol.com** if interested. He will need your preference for AM or PM and date.

Don Derry's fortes are deep hollowing (for which he designed and sells his own personal deep hollowing designed tool) and dramatic color on woodturnings. While we do periodically underwrite the full cost of professional demonstrations, the cost and risk to the club is much lower to take advantage of his presence in the area.

When in Detroit several years ago, Don left us with, including other things, an improved understanding of deep hollowing, getting the most from a shear scraper and how to put the best edge on scrapers. His deep hollowing tool was used and purchased by several members of both the DAW and the Ann Arbor clubs. Deep hollowing can be intimidating, and Don's demonstration was enlightening on its potential and a comfortable means to do it. Another Derry product is a shaper sharpening (or burnishing) block that will impart a smoother, better cutting burr to scrapers. His block is very similar to the Veritas aluminum burnisher, though Don's is significantly more robust.

Don will be here by arrangement with the Huron Valley wood turners club. The DAW share of expenses includes $550 for transportation, plus rooming and meals while he's supporting DAW. The demonstration is scheduled at the Royal Oak Senior Center and will high-light Hollow Form Turning and Air Brushing project decoration. If you have interest in other techniques, send an email to Greg Smith. Sufficient email requests may warrant adjusting Don's presentation. I'm sure Don has a full bag to support any number of requests.

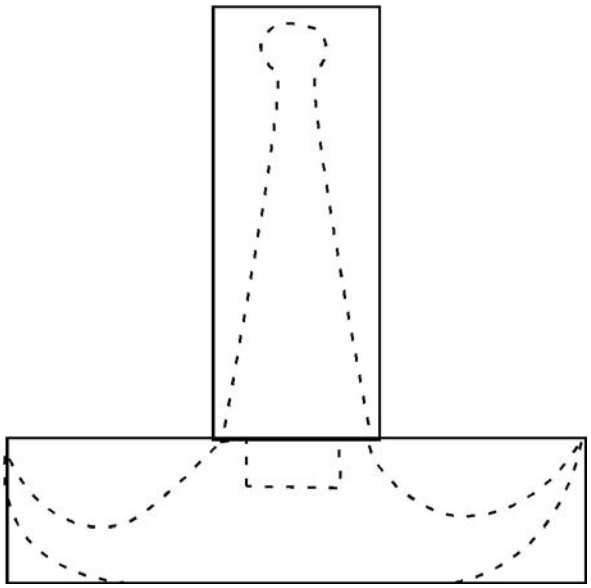
Don's demo is polished and entertaining. I recommend all attend as you'll see excellent technique with the principles behind them explained. I plan to attend .and look forward to visiting with a number of DAW members. Plan on a full day of learning, lunch and beverages. We're planning on 35 members at $35 each – that should just about cover the expenses. Incidentally, our regular meeting is November 16, the following day at Shadbush and the NOVI Woodshow is the following weekend.

Chet Bisno

2 Piece Ring Holder

By: Greg Smith

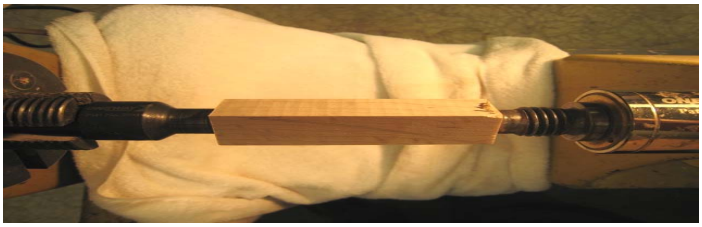
DAW October 14. 2008 Presentation



A 2 piece ring holder allows the maker to use more exotic woods since you will use less wood than the one piece type and it is hard to find a large block and that can be expensive. One piece is the post and one is the base.

The most critical part is making a good transition from the post to the base.

The post blank is 3/4 to 1 inch square and 2 /1/2 to 3 inches long.. Mount between centers using a spindle roughing gouge turn it close to round.



The object is to get the corners knocked off since that is when most of the load is put on the part using a parting tool or bedan, turn a tenon 1/2 inches in dia and about 3/8 of an inch wide. The photo shows a single tenon on the left side. With a spindle gouge or detail skew, square up the shoulders or slightly under cut to allow the post to sit cleanly on the base. Part the post in the tenon area.

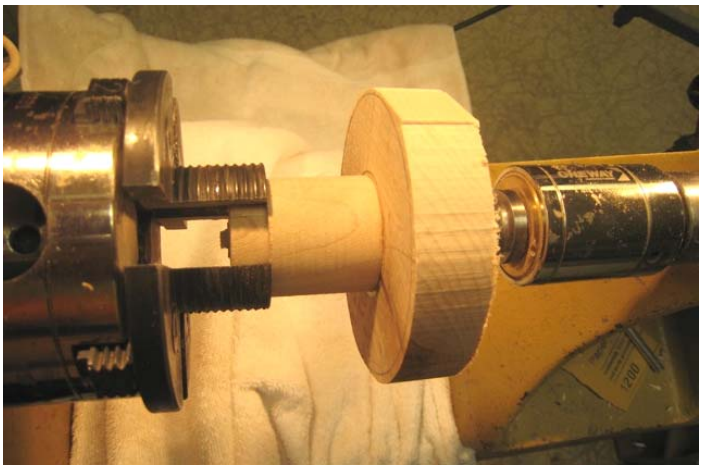
The base blank should be about 3 1/2 in in dia and 3/4 to 1 in thick. The blank material should be finished on one side so if it is rough stock run it through a planner to smooth it out. With a compass layout the bandsawing circle at larger that 3 inches and mark a small circle about 1 1/4 inches this will provide a reference for locating a glue block.

Glue Blocks

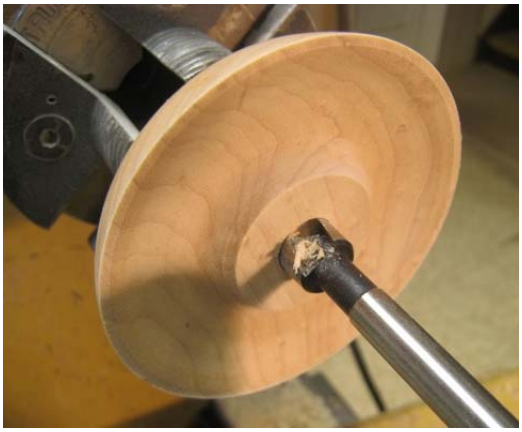
The glue blocks only need to be about 1 1/4 inch dia. where it contacts the base blank. Your chuck requirements will determine the clamp tenon diameter. Since I have a set of spigot jaws I make the glue block to fit them. I turn an 8 inch blank and make several tenons in it to produce 5 or 6 glue blocks at once. Mount the glue block in the chuck and true up the glue face. cut a recess into the end so that the contact area is only 1/4 inch wide.

Glue the block onto the blank, (I use medium thick CA glue), using the small circle as a placement guide (this does not need to be exact).

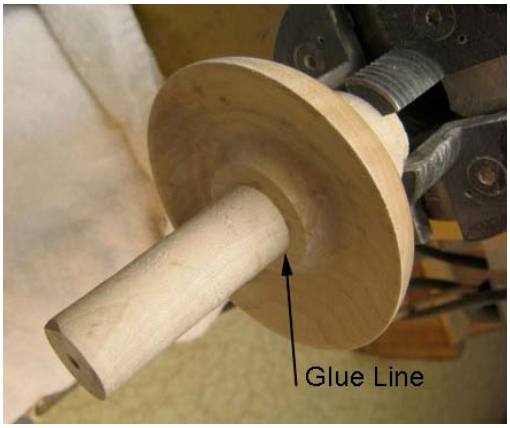
Mount the glue block with the base in your chuck, bring up the tail stock and true up the base (the tail stock will provide a margin of safety for the roughing cuts). Shape the bottom to side transition curve, sand and finish it all the way from the top to the glue block. This will make it easier in the event the glue block pulls out of your chuck. and does not re-center perfectly when you put it back.



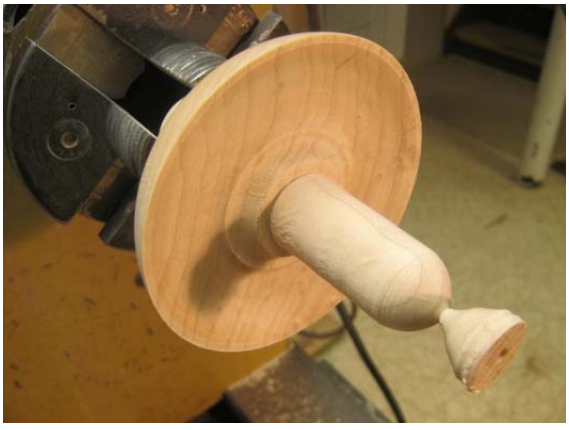
Pull back the tail stock and face the blank to provide a flat and true surface for the post. Use a forstner bit to match the tenon (1/2") drill a hole a little longer that the 3/8" tenon length. Fit the post and chamfer the hole if needed to make it fit. Glue the post in using CA glue or Titebond. On a snug fit the Titebond will grab quickly and hold. Use the tail-stock to apply pressure for a few min. if needed.



The post and base can now be turned using a combination of small bowl gouge, spindle gouge, skew and scrapers. remember the post is a spindle turning (grain parallel to the axis) and the base is flat grain (like a bowl). this will have some impact on the tools you use. The photo below shows the tenon just after gluing in place.

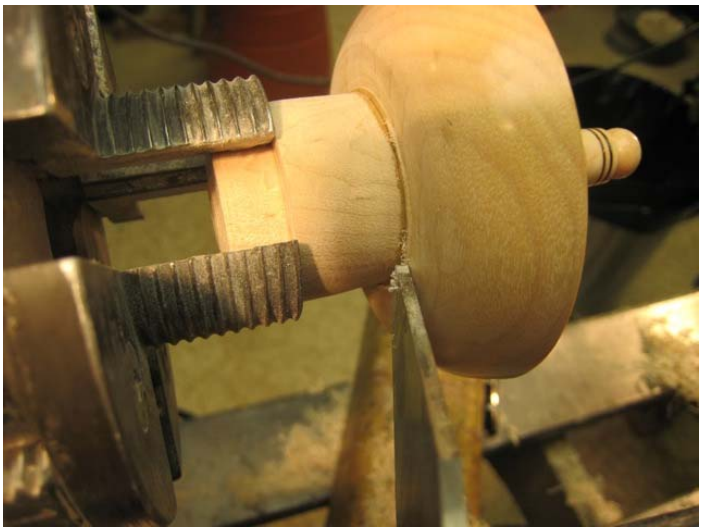


The next photo shows reducing the length of the tenon to the length you desire. Note that it will not take much of a catch to pull the glue block out of the chuck since you are cantilevered out about 5 or 6 inches. so be gentle and use shearing cuts



The remaining shaping may now be completed. I use a small bowl gouge to get most of the wood out. If you are making a dish design, it is like a small bowl. I make the final shape with a round nose scraper to allow me to make a fair transition. An alternative design is a small step at the base of the post. Do not use the scraper on the post just up to it.

Part the base from the glue block starting just above the joint with a small undercut angle. Since the flue joint is only 1/4 wide it will leave a 1 in tenon on the

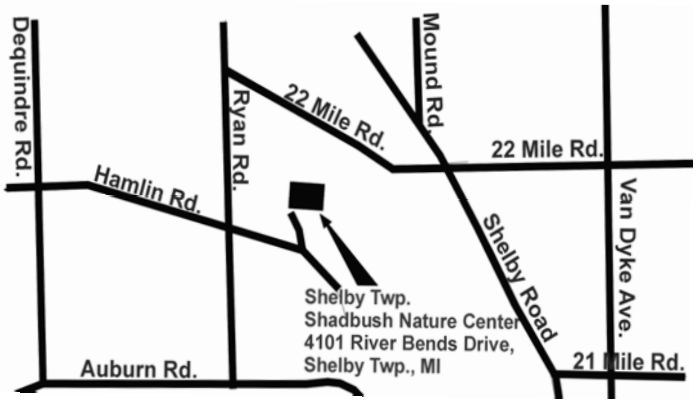


bottom that can be cleaned up and left on or sanded off. since the bottom was finished before your glued the block on, it will not protrude past the bottom. An alternate would be to use a vacuum chuck or jam chuck to clean up the bottom.

Enjoy - Greg

Next Meeting
October 19, 2008

Detroit Area Woodturners meet at the Shelby River Bends Park, Shadbush Nature Center, Shelby Township, MI, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. The Park is located on Ryan Road between 21 and 22 Mile Roads opposite the Hamlin Road junction.



DAW Officers - Here to Help!! Don't Hesitate to Call		
President	Frank Marabate	586-246-0503
1st. Vice President	Russ Holmes	248-645-1970
2nd. Vice President	Frank Goettl	586-286-0831
Secretary	John Sabina	586-786-1967
Treasurer	John Fitzpatrick	248-608-6972
Membership	Greg Smith	248-649-3565
Library	Glen Lieving	586-726-2856
Mentoring & Shavings	Chet Bisno	586-254-7605
Club Logo apparel	Dave Earl	248-544-8947

Daw is an affiliate of the American Association of Woodturners

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DETROIT AREA WOODTURNERS