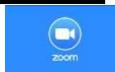
May, 2021 Volume 25 Issue 5

A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION
LOCAL CHAPTER AAW



Michael Kehs



Master of the carved & detailed hollow form May 8, 2021

As a master woodworker, he is able to craft the most intricate designs this includes everything from boxes, lamps, bowls, furniture, and home decor. Michael lives in upper Bucks County, PA.; this was a deliberate action to live among the trees, the raw material of his passion. Being close has instilled a sense of respect and love for nature.

Michael's artistic view is most often toward the beauty of all things natural. Experience taught him to look for balance in the total piece, and a work ethic to get the job done. He builds custom furniture and artistic wood turning and carving. Teaching wood carving and wood turning in his studio is a very satisfying part of his business.







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Club Meetings

Club Meetings-

Meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month by Zoom conferencing. Invitations are posted to all members. Guests are welcome by request to: membership@bayareawoodturners.org who will forward an invitation to the next meeting.

Zoom sessions open at 8:30am. The meeting start time is 9:00am.

See bayareawoodturners.org/ for club information.

BAWA Officers Meeting -

The Association's officer meetings are held each month. Contact Jim Rodgers at: president@bayareawoodturners.org for more information.

2021 Event Schedule	
May 20, 2021	Rick Nelson Saw Dust Session and Shop Tour 1:30—3:30
June 12, 2021	Phil Rose Split Turning 8:30—12:30
July 10, 2021	Harvey Meyer Basket Illusion Techniques

The Bay Area Woodturners Association is a local chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. Our purpose is to provide a meeting place for local turners to share ideas and techniques and to educate the general public regarding the art of turning. The Association usually meets the second Saturday of each month. The Association periodically sponsors exhibitions and demonstrations by local and internationally known turners.

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Staff Photographer Rick Dietrich

Phil Rose June 12, 2021 8:30—12:30

Wood and Glass-together



Phil Rose

Phil Rose is known for his thought-provoking wood-based art that starts life on a lathe but may be embellished with wood burning, dye, fused glass, or other delightful techniques. Some of his current work is inspired by thoughts of wave patterns and abstract shapes, as well as creating common objects with different wood.

Phil strives to separate the mechanical aspects of woodturning from the physical results, inspiring views to not only admire the

art but also wonder how it was created. Phil often says, "While I do generate ideas of art forms I would like to create, ultimately the wood needs to tell me what it wants to become for its second life."









Beads of Courage



BAWA's Beads of Courage Program

To this date, you, BAWA members, have donated more than thirty-five boxes to four local hospitals for the Beads of Courage program in support of seriously ill children. Below is a letter from the mother of one of those children. In it, she thanks, among others, "artists and woodworkers" ...that's you! Be proud!

From Dustin's Mom,

"Our cancer warrior was introduced to BOC when we were admitted to the hospital when they found his first tumor. He was one month shy of his 9th birthday. Our lives changed forever that day. And yet he never stopped smiling. Even after his spinal fusion he was ready to play 10 minutes after he got to his room. He'd like to say "I have cancer ...cancer doesn't have me". We quickly realized how his beads would help him to explain how much courage he has had. They give him a beautiful way to tell his story of living with cancer. We also get the Beads of the month every year. We absolutely can not say thank you enough to every staff member, volunteer, artists, and woodworker that gives of their time, love, and talent to our children. I can't count how many times we as a family and him alone has held tightly to his beads and had a better understanding as to just how courageous our cancer warrior is. And on those really hard days they can bring a smile just by looking at his favorite ones and knowing if he could get through that tough time he can get through anything. We love each and everyone who gives so freely of yourself to bring a smile to our kids and gives them something tangible to hold onto to show their journey of healing, strength, and courage."

This is just one example of the impact your work has had on children and families. We've received several notes of appreciation with pictures of these warriors, all praising your generosity and craftsmanship. Unfortunately, because of privacy issues, we can't share them in this format, but please know, your participation in this program is making a difference!

If you'd like to get involved, have questions on the program or would like a, (free of charge, mailed directly to you), Logo Bead to include in your turning, please see the main page of the BAWA website. https://www.bayareawoodturners.org/

Thank you all!!!

Beads of Courage Submissions







Carl Mercer





Dave Bentley



Vern Stovall



Jim Rodgers



Larry Batti

Joe Flemming's Demonstration review



Looking for more color in your life? Joe Fleming had the answer in April when he gave BAWA the low down on airbrushing. This hyper-caffeinated southpaw Zoomed in from San Diego to share some of what he has learned in his 22 years of turning and 18 years of coloring.

He spoke of the relative merits of different media which can be used in the airbrush. Dyes are usually transparent but are picked up preferentially by end grain yielding a blotchy result plus they are not color-fast. Paint will give good coverage but requires solvent to clean up. His favored medium is

acrylic which is color-fast and cleans up with water. (One of his mentors, the late Binh Pho, used acrylics.)

Joe suggests practicing on watercolor paper or 1/16" plywood. He recommends bleaching wood before airbrushing to be able to control the color. Use air-brush ready paint (Grex, Golden and others) which is very runny and has extra-fine chunks of pigment.

He went over equipment necessary: a compressor and an airbrush. The compressor should deliver 60 PSI and 0.6-0.7 CFM and have a water trap and a regulator near the airbrush. Airbrushes come in 3 categories: Hobby (\$50-100 range), Professional (\$120+ range), and Junk. He recommends getting a good quality Dual Action airbrush with top or side feed and Teflon seals. His website Airbrushing Wood - Grex Airbrush and Air Tool products features a large array of airbrushes and accessories as well as extensive resources for airbrushing information.

Airbrush technique requires practice. The brush delivers a cone of paint; held closer it produces a small dense spot, farther away is a larger, less intense spot. Joe went over several practice drills he uses to perfect airbrushing technique. These included making horizontal and vertical lines, circles, and dagger strokes.







He finished up with a detailed demo of creating a sunset scene. Starting with a sealed board (sealing keeps the paint from bleeding, he said), he went through masking and blending techniques, discussing various options for the materials he was using.



No job is complete without cleaning up. Joe showed how to disassemble and clean the components of his airbrush so it would be ready for the next project.

Joe Fleming gave a great demonstration. His enthusiasm about his topic was contagious and he gave a wealth of information about airbrushing. A video of his presentation is available on the members-only section of the BAWA website.

President's Letter



I am looking forward to seeing the stacked box project that you are working on for this month's Show & Tell. My samples were simple, and I know that there will be more creative inputs to see.

I hope the idea of some "Challenges" is some-

thing that motivates you to get into the shop and try something new. For each month's challenge, I go into the shop, make samples, solve some issues, and come up with a plan of action. This is my shop time.

As Covid-19 restrictions ease throughout the State, I am asked, "When are we re-starting inperson meetings?" I can't give you a specific answer as the Board is still weighing the incoming information. However, I will guess that we may restart in the fall and precede the September meeting with our Summer Picnic. All this depends on our ability to continue to reduce the infection instances through continued Social Distancing, masks, and vaccinations. Our area of the state is progressing, and I hope that progress continues without any hiccups.

Personally, I have not changed my personal behaviors since vaccination and will continue to be very conservative in my personal interactions.

Stay safe, expand your "bubble" slowly.

See you (virtually) Saturday,



Rockler Helps BAWA Members

BAWA members receive a 10% discount when purchasing directly at the Concord Rockler Store at:

http://www.rockler.com/retail/stores/ca/concord-store.

Mention your BAWA membership when checking out, to receive your discount. Rockler also donates part of the proceeds back to the club which help support our Holiday Party raffle.



Taking Measure

COVID-19 has disrupted the entire world, and it is affecting all of us, in every aspect of our lives. Self-quarantine, social distancing. It can be overwhelming and stressful. Until this crisis passes, we must continue to create, learn, and share.

That said, now may be the perfect time to isolate yourself in you workshop-- turning, planning and prepping for projects, reviewing favorite woodturning magazines, watching videos, and more.

Remember, safety is always a top priority. Take measure: observe precautions, act wisely, and keep yourself safe. Together we are stronger, together we are the woodturning community.

BAWA Classified Ads



We want members and others with items to sell or trade, services to render or if you're just looking to find a specific item from fellow BAWA members. Please send ads to Louie Silva at: newslettereditor@bayareawoodturners.org

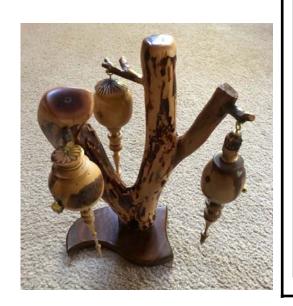
You can't beat the price...FREE!!

Virtual Show & Tell





Charlie Saul







Jim Campbell





Gordon Bone









Michael Hackett



Layout



The chuck



The
Completed
Chinese
Ball



Mounted work & one tool

Jean-Louis Meynier

Bradford Pear by Dave Schell



I'll admit it. I have a thing for fruitwoods. I really enjoy turning them, although I'm sometimes frustrated by the cracks that develop as they dry. Apple is one of my favorites, and I love cherry because of the great finish it takes and the possibility of high figure, interesting grain patterns, and color variation. Fruitwoods sometimes smell fragrant, even evoking their fruit as you turn the timber. Not having turned Bradford pear (Pyrus calleryana) before researching this article, I was ex-

pecting to enjoy it as much as apple or cherry.

Bradford pear is often planted as an ornamental street tree because of the attractive white spring flowers. It is also a common landscaping tree. The flowers have a unique odor which many people find unpleasant. Their diminutive fruit Bradford pear feeds birds throughout the year, but the fruit also stains sidewalks, discouraging some from planting the tree at all. The tree is fast growing and short—lived, usually living no more than a few decades. The rapid growth produces wide growth rings, though the grain remains fine and uniform, taking detail well. The trees are weak as branches tend to grow from one central crown at the top of the trunk, making them susceptible to storm damage. And that is how a few pieces of Bradford pear made their way to my workshop! My town removed a tree that had several broken branches and I was able to grab a few pieces of the trunk before they went to the compost facility.

Bradford pear can grow to 30–50 feet (9m–15m), but if planted in a town, they are usually trimmed to a lower height. Trunks of pruned Bradford pear in a municipal setting may have smaller diameters. In some areas, the tree is considered an invasive species (birds readily spread the seeds). Because of the frequent limb breakage, municipalities are starting to remove them and replace them with lower maintenance options.

The bark is grey and undistinctive, being similar in appearance to maple and

Continued on following page



Photo 1 The bark of Bradford pear looks like many other species of common hardwoods

many other common city trees (**Photo** 1). The wood varies from a cream color to a light orange or pink tint, and a small amount of dark heartwood may be present (**Photo 2**). The grain is generally straight. Like many fruitwoods, Bradford pear checks quickly. In contrast to many fruitwoods, there is no distinct odor during cutting or turning. The wood turned easily and I didn't experience any catches or tearout. The wood was similar in appearance to maple and with the straight grain, not overly exciting when finished. It sanded

and took an oil finish well. For the next piece I turn, I will burn the edge or

carve it to add some interest. It's not a wood I would choose over other fruitwoods to turn.

Instead of using this wood for bowls, I would use it for smaller spindle projects, like wands, vases, or ornamental Christmas trees. The straight grain would work well for those products. While the wood does make a nice bowl, I am much more likely to select other more figured or highly colored species to turn.



Photo 2 Grain is fine but with little figure

While I was not impressed by my experience, other turners seek out Bradford pear for a variety of reasons. With its ability to take fine details, it is a good species for embellishing with textures or carving. It is acceptable for thread-chasing, though other species such as boxwood or African blackwood are better (these other species are expensive, so Bradford pear would make an inexpensive practice material for threading). It is good for natural-edged bowls as it tends to retain its bark, and its plain appearance offers a clean palette for pyrography. Interestingly, the wood oxidizes as it ages to a much more pleasing warm orange-brown, somewhat reminiscent of freshly finished cherry.

Bradford pear is also used for other woodworking projects and was once used frequently for hand planes. It is used as smoking wood for barbeques (great

with pork and fish). The straight grain makes it sought after for woodwind instruments and furniture veneer.

This wood is a good choice for beginning woodturners because it is forgiving to turn. I haven't seen Bradford pear turning blanks in specialty woodstores, but it can be found online. Your best chance to find some free wood would be to contact your local municipality, arborist, or landscaping company if your community features some of these trees along its streets.

Dave Schell lives in Mount Joy, PA. View his work online at: imakebowls.com, facebook.com/imakebowls or instagram.com/imakebowls.

For a new woodturner

(everything but wood!)



- Rikon 12" variable speed lathe
- Delta grinder with aluminum oxide wheels
- 5 piece basic tool set
- Verigrind fixture
- Face shield

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