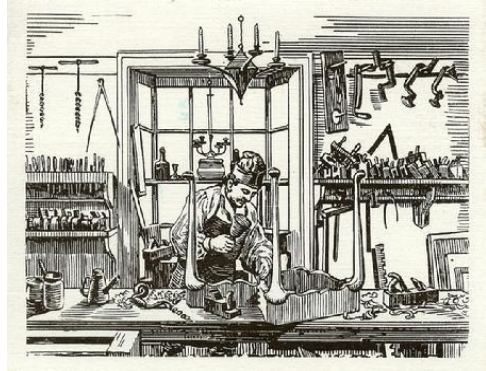


The York Woodworkers Association

Newsletter for January 2018

Greetings ya'll and welcome to the January 2018 club newsletter. If you have suggestions for improvements, please email me at tom23.browning@gmail.com.



Message from the Prez: I hope everyone is doing well and enjoyed their Christmas. Christmas has always been an excellent time to get some of those extra tools or supplies you have been needing, but just wouldn't buy for yourself. Now men, this goes two ways if you know what I mean! I hope you didn't forget those diamonds our ladies have been wanting as well!!

If you didn't attend our 2017 Christmas dinner you missed a good one. We had 33 folks (members and spouses) present. Also in attendance was Mr. John Chason, one of our clubs founding members. It was a pleasure to talk with him again and listen to the fine words he offered about our club. We also had \$1,672.00 in donations for door prizes, these were from a number of fellow woodworkers as well as local businesses who saw the value in supporting our fine organization. Some of our door prizes were also club sponsored as always. I personally want to thank each and every donor for their support. If you were fortunate to take home one of the sponsor gifts, be sure to thank them when you redeem your gift.

In addition to the great time we all enjoyed, we also was treated with a great meal catered by Tony Childers of York. And he did a fantastic job including allowing us to use 2 very special serving pieces made from wood and gifted to him. He told me it was only suiting to leave those to a wood working group. My hat is off to Tony.

Below is a list of donors:

York Electric CO-OP

Use of their conference room at no expense to our club.

York Business Donors

Farmers Service Center – Lewis Hicks
Dunlap Johnson Chevrolet – Mac Johnson
The Outdoor Shop – Chris Hubarger
Brownies Service Center – Hershhal Brown
Amanda's Sassy Scissors – Amanda Frock
York Lumber Company Gary Willis/Gene Black

Italian Garden – Owner
Zaxby's
Sharon Grill – Anita Shaw
Express Lube – Owner
Garden Café – Owner

Rock Hill Business Donors

Red Bowl – Owner

Out of state sponsor

Klingspor's Woodworking

York Woodworkers Club sponsored gifts

Bird feeder/seed package (2), flowers for tables (6), 1 book of stamps
JC Penny's gift card, Belk's gift cards, Lowes gift cards,

Member donations

Don and Vickie Lee, Harold Roddey, Jim Dotson, John Goodman, Ed Moor, Buddy and Lynn Autman, John Battle

Non Member donor

Carrie Bolin

The January 2018 Meeting:

We'll be at Jimmy Matthew's shop in Rock Hill. Donnie Lee will be presenting a program on table construction including tapering legs and cutting mortises and tenon joints. A brief talk on dovetail joints will be included.

In February, Donnie will continue the topic with a program on hand cut dovetails, both half blind and through, during a discussion on drawer construction. If time allows we will talk about installing a lock set. The second session will also serve as a comparison between a simple table and one with inlay.

Who's Making Chips:

Last fall a couple of members asked for a presentation on getting a bowl from a log. Now that my shop is complete, I've starting roughing out bowls from the logs that I received while we were under construction. So I decided to do a short article on getting a bowl out of a log.

We have two "volunteers" on the sawing bench. The piece on the left in the pic is a crotch of the hickory tree we cut down while building the shop. A crotch like this almost always yields great wood. I'll do an article on that log later... it has an interesting story.

On the right in the pic is a pecan log Bill Wilson gave me last summer. It has an interesting limb coming in from the right. I'm in hopes we'll find some good grain



in it. We'll focus on that bit of timber!



The first task is to decide where we think we'll get the best wood for our bowls. I start by looking at the pith in the pecan log in pic to the left. I start here because we need to remove the pith as it's the source of most cracks in the log. The two lines that flank the pith serve as the guides for the chainsaw. I chose this orientation because it yields a near-perfect section from which to make a bowl... that would be side "A".

Now that we know where we'll slice the log, we need to decide where along the slice the bowl will land. For that task we'll need a high-tech gizmo known as a "pizza pan"... see pic on right...



It's a piece of ¼ inch plywood with a center hole in it... in this case it is 10 ½ inches in diameter. I've got "pizza pans" from 6 inches to 13 inches. They're **The pith** great for visualizing where the bowl will fall in the pecan log. I'll center a grain feature with the pizza pan so it shows up in the center of the bowl or balance a group of features on the bowl by balancing them under the pizza pan. Now it's time to break out the chainsaw...

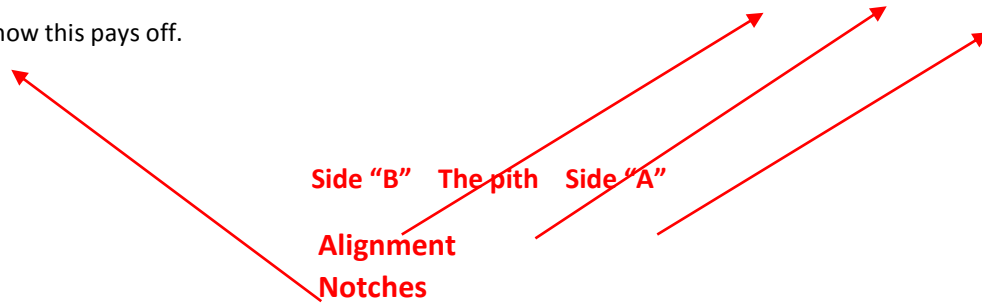
Here I've started to saw the pecan log. I notched the guide lines on each end of log



and used these notches to slice the log end-to-end. I align the saw to the notches and slice the log into two “sides” and the “pith slice”... see pic on right. Note that I’ve tried to keep the cuts as straight as possible.

The key to a straight cut is to cut through the log in one pass... no “sawing” back and forth.

We’ll see later how this pays off.



With the chain sawing complete, we bring the pecan sides into the shop to cut out the “bowl blank” from the sides on the band saw... see pic on right. Again our high-tech pizza pan is useful. This time we nail it to the “bark face” of the sides that we cut and use it as a guide to band saw round bowl blanks from the sides.



The “bowl blank” The rest of the “side”



This is where the straight chain saw cut pays off. We rotate the

side on the band saw with the sawn face on the saw table... see the pic at the lower right. The flatter that face is... the better life is!!

A technical note... don’t even think about sawing sides into bowl blanks with your basic ¼ inch fine tooth blade. Reload your saw with a ½ inch wide, 3 tooth/inch, hook tooth blade with a wide kerf... and my recommendation is a Timberwolf blade.

O yeah... save those pecan cutoffs and chips... next time you smoke some short ribs... you’re good-to-go!!



Now that we have a round bowl blank, we need a means of attaching it to the lathe. If you cheated and looked at the pic on the left, you already know that this step also starts with our buddy, the pizza pan. This time we attach it to the “sawn cut” face of our blank. This will usually be the mouth of the bowl. We do a “best fit” of the pizza pan on the blank and use a nail to mark the center of the blank.

With a good sized compass we scribe a circle around the nail hole that is equal to the diameter

“Sawn” face



Face Plate

of a faceplate as the pic on the right illustrates. This line serves as a guide to attach the faceplate to the center of the blank and in-turn mount the blank to the lath.

Another tip... use a good grade of screws to attach the faceplate and NOT DRYWALL SCREWS!! They are so brittle they tend to snap off. An impact driver is the answer for putting the screws in without stripping the drive slots.

Now we can put the blank on the lath to shape the outside of the bowl and cut a recess for hollowing in the next step. You'll note in the pic on the right that I have the tailstock pulled up to support the blank. This is a safety measure because the blank is out of balance and I want all the control I can get. As far as tools to use, I mainly use carbide... they last through several bowls and they go through green wood faster than a teenager goes through their alliance!!



Recess for hollowing



Thirty minutes later the outside of the bowl is shaped and a recess is cut for reversing the bowl to hollow it out. This blank lends itself to a calabash style bowl so I left the largest diameter about a $\frac{1}{3}$ the way down the bowl and curved the bottom three times as much as I curved the upper portion. You can see

these two curves in the pic to the right with the blank reversed and held in the chuck.



Largest diameter for the bowl

The last step is to hollow the bowl's interior. The bowl's wall is roughed to 10% of the bowl's diameter to facilitate even drying. Next the bowl is weighted, numbered and packed in a box of shavings to dry for 8-12 weeks.



So there you have it... from a log to a roughed-out bowl. I'll finish turn the bowl in 8-12 weeks when it's dry, but that's a story for another day.



Regards,

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