



Brasstown, North Carolina

www.brasstownwoodturners.org

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NEXT MEETING

**June 27, 2015 will be our July meeting due to holidays – Hayesville High School
9:30 AM to 1:00 PM**

Joe Waldroup will be our program presenter. He will be demonstrating a surprise!

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### **President's Corner**

Greetings! For those of you that did not make the last meeting, you really missed an excellent treat from Chuck Waldroup showing off his great skills in turning the mini cowboy hat! Chuck has donated a mini cowboy hat with stand that we will raffle off in our August meeting. Raffle tickets are only \$5.00 each so please participate.

Don't forget that our next meeting is on June 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am with our own member Joe Waldroup at the lathe with a surprise demonstration.

See you then and stay cool!  
JC

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Meeting

The meeting opened with 20 members and 2 guests in attendance.

J.C. welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked the guests to stand and introduce themselves. He reminded everyone that the July meeting will meet on June 27 due to the normal meeting in July is the 4th and is a holiday. J.C. also mentioned that he, Joe Waldroup and Terrence Powell set up to demonstrate Thursday night on the square in Hayesville. There were several who had questions and watched in interest at the various demos. Each Thursday there are several demos during the summer during the Harvest on the Square. J.C. also encouraged all who are not members of AAW to join. Chuck Waldroup put in a plug for the North Carolina Symposium on November 6-8 and J.C. also announced September 18 as the date for the Turning Georgia Style Symposium in Cartersville. Guest were Roger Galesspi from Panama City, FLA. and Steve Cartor from Hayesville. Francis Moate is moving to Louisiana to be closer to family and said he has a basement full of tools and wants to sell them. He also has a Stuby lathe for sale for \$5,000. Francis also reminded us that his friend still has several things left to sell. Attached is a list of the Legacy Bits that Francis has for sale.

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## Chuck Waldroup, Mini Cowboy Hat

Chuck began by passing out the handout Tips for Turning a "Mini Cowboy Hat (June 2015) Included was a drawing with mounting details and sizes.

When choosing the wood to turn, you need to look at both ends of the wood and look for the best place to cut the piece. He also said to look where the grain was symmetrical. Then he said to put a template of the hat you are going to turn and find the center point. He then started the turning process and explained the sequence of each and why. He said he turned the hats to  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch thick. He said you need to check the thickness often. He also stressed the need to do the whole hat in one day as the wood would move and might crack.

To darken the band on the hat, he uses a darker wood such as, ebony or padauk. To help, asked if anyone wanted to try the burnishing. Our own Chuck Honaker volunteered and did the burnishing. Great job! The demo hat used two "Chucks" to complete the job.

He used a light and a light jam chuck when turning the thin sections. He used the light to let him know how thin he was. But he also checked with calipers too. To help the brim turn up, he used rubber bands in the drying process.

The demo was very informative and interesting. Chuck did a very good job and held our attention throughout the entire meeting. Several said they were going to try to make a hat.

Chuck also brought several other mini hats and one large cowboy hat. (See photos)  
Attached is the handout that was given out.



Hats that Chuck brought for show and tell.



**Bring Back**

Brad Scott said this was his last wood turning. He said he had not turned in some time



and was going to retire.

The winner was Walter Berg.

**Show and Tell**

Terrence Powell brought 3 pieces for show and tell.



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BWG News

BWG BADGES -- Badges have been printed, and are now encased in a 'clip badge', rather than a pin-on. Please remove, and return to box after each meeting. The badges are stored in alphabetical order. If 'lost' there will be a \$2 service charge for a replacement badge. Any new members will receive badge at the next meeting. Please

let me know if there are any changes or corrections are needed

Folk School -- Woodturning course (and others) are available to people in the surrounding Counties (see below) at a discounted rate of 'half'. This is for the course only- does not include room/meals. If you are enrolled as a local resident, you will be bumped by paying, scholarship, etc. students. Participating Counties are; Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon, and Swain Counties, NC and Fannin, Towns, and Union Counties in GA.

Folk School Local Scholarships Available -- Some great local scholarships are available to full-time, local residents. www.folkschool.org -- check under "For Locals" Tuition is FREE - but each student will be required to pay a \$25 registration fee and any additional materials costs. If there is space available and you choose to stay on campus, regular housing and meals rates apply. "Local" is a **full-time, permanent resident** of the following counties:

NC: Cherokee, Clay, Macon, Swain, Graham; GA: Union, towns, Fannin; TN: Polk

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### Items for Sale

Francis Moate is moving to Louisiana to be closer to family and said he has a basement full of tools and wants to sell them. He also has a Stuby lathe for sale for \$5,000.

Francis also reminded us that his friend still has several things left to sell. Attached is a list of the Legacy Bits that Francis has for sale.

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Up-coming Events

AAW's 29th Annual International Symposium June 25-28, 2015. David L. Lawrence Conference Center. Pittsburgh, PA. Featured demonstrators: Richard Angus, Stuart Batty, Dixie Biggs, Nick Cook, Steve Cook, Cindy Drozda, David Ellsworth, Lyle Jamieson, Joe Ruminski and many others. Vendors, instant Gallery. Information and registration at www.woodturner.org/events/

Turning Southern Style XXI Symposium September 18-20, 2015. Northwest Georgia Trade and Convention Center, Dalton, GA. Featured demonstrators: Nick Agar, Benoit Averly, Jimmy Clewes, Nick Cook, John Lucas and Harvey Meyer. Vendors, instant Gallery. Information and registration at www.gawoodturner.org/

North Carolina Woodturning Symposium November 6-8, 2015. Greensboro Coliseum Special Events Center, Greensboro, NC. Featured demonstrators: Nick Agar, Don Derry, Jimmy Clewes, Ashley Harwood, Mike Jackofsky, Al Stirt and many more. Vendors, instant Gallery. Information and registration at www.northcarolinawoodturning.com/

2015 Scheduled Meetings

| Date | Demonstrator | Subject |
|----------|------------------|--|
| 10-Jan | Don Marks | Small Lamp |
| 07-Feb | Jack Mincey | Ornament with a sea urchin (\$5.00) |
| 07-Mar | Alex Bolden | Salt Shaker |
| 04-April | Talmadge Murphey | To be determined |
| 02-May | Gene Gross | Three part candle from a single source |
| 06-June | Chuck Waldroup | Mini cowboy hat (\$10.00) |
| 27-June | Joe Waldroup | Surprise |
| 01-Aug | Dean Hutchins | Surface Enhancements & Piercing (\$10.00) |
| 05-Sep | Walter Berg | To be determined |
| 10-Oct | Jack Morse | Sanding and finishing and something turned |
| 07-Nov | To be determined | |
| 05-Dec | Christmas Party | |

BWG 2015 OFFICERS

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------|--------------|--|
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| | Glen Love | 828-389-6088 | glenplove@frontier.com |

Tips for Turning a "Mini" Cowboy Hat (June 2015)

1) What Types of Wood can be used?

- Most hardwoods work – presenter has experience with maple, cherry, dogwood, bradford pear, walnut, pecan, hickory, holly, chestnut, box elder, birch, red bud, magnolia, persimmon, white oak, elm
- Lighter color woods are preferred due to transmittal of light – maple is ideal
- See reference section of this handout to research the materials professional turners are using
- Open grain woods may be more prone to cracking
- Recommend avoiding soft woods like pine, cedar, etc.

2) How do you select the tree for a hat?

- A fresh fallen, live tree is preferred – some pro turners suggest a 30 day 'shelf life' after a living tree has fallen – a key factor is that the wood still be quite wet
- Straight grain is best – try to avoid limbs and voids in your blank- wind shake or atypical grain patterns can be problematic to thin turning and/or the drying process
- Material which is punky or should be avoided
- Figure such as crotch, burl, etc., will wrinkle and distort more (this can be good or bad)
- Symmetry of the blank around pith is important for visual appearance and uniform bending
- Reference the sketch to determine the approximate size of tree you need
- A template is handy for quickly determining if the log is large enough and for the layout on the log

3) Preparing the Blank

- A hat is turned side grain orientation with top of hat oriented toward the bark – this takes advantage of wood's natural movement during drying – this readily yields a slightly oval shape and should achieve the upward curve to the brim
- Remove some length (at least 1-2") on the exposed ends of the log if it's been cut for a while; this will reduce the chance of your project cracking
- Cutting out the blank
 - Determine the best side for the hat and outline it on the end grain
 - Split the log - Eliminate the pith (>90% of cracks originate here)
 - Further you can get your blank for the pith, the less likely to crack
 - Establish a balanced blank - even growth/material on each side of pith/center – this provides best appearance, bending of brim, etc.
 - Use a round template – cardboard, plastic, etc. attached to the blank & centered on growth rings
 - Form the rough cone shape - get the blank as round as possible before you go to the lathe
 - Use what you've got that works for pre-shaping... Chainsaw, Bandsaw, handsaws, etc.

4) Getting ready to turn

- Hats need to be finished in a single session – the wood starts drying as soon as you begin the shaping process – you should allow plenty of time when you start your first one
- Remember that "it's just wood" – you will not likely salvage every hat project when you first attempt them
- Use sharp tools – you can make the entire hat with a bowl gouge – it's nice to have a couple gouges at the ready to minimize sharpening – I typically use 3/8" gouge for shaping the hats – use the tools that work best for you for clean cuts; you may want to use a spindle gouge, round nose scraper, etc. inside the hats
- You will need:
 - Calipers for the diameters of the hat sides and the final hat thickness and a ruler/measuring tape – it's easier if you have two pairs of calipers
 - Materials/Wood for burnishing the band (if you want a colored band on it)
 - Bright light which is adjustable to the work area (flexible neck is ideal)
 - Jam chuck (lighted is preferred) for removing tenon from top of hat
 - Materials for bending the hats – bend jig, rubber bands, clamps, etc.
 - Proper safety equipment (face shield, dust collection, mask/respirator, etc.)
 - Chuck and drive spur or Faceplate
 - Short tool rest (not required, but helpful for mini hat with the demonstrated approach)

5) Mounting on the lathe and Rough Turning

- Mount the blank between centers: with drive spur on large side of cone (bottom of hat) side and live center tail stock on the bark side (top of hat); this allows you to adjust position the wood and achieve a centered

Tips for Turning a "Mini" Cowboy Hat (June 2015)

grain pattern. Note: you can use any mounting method that works for you – could start with faceplate, screw chuck, etc. Faceplate w/appropriate screws strongly recommended for full size hats.

- Begin roughing the blank to round
 - Assure firm mount – tighten and secure tail stock – periodically check it for tightness while turning
 - Position tool rest near bottom of blank (live center end)
 - Start slow, adjust to comfortable speed – again, periodically check tail stock for tightness
 - Use pull cut for basic shaping
 - Finalize your shape and form a foot/tenon at the bottom to fit chuck to be used
 - Tip - If you find something unexpected in the blank as you rough it out, it may be best to use the design opportunity to make a bowl, hollow form or other item

6) Shaping the outside of the Hat

- Making a hat is really no different than turning a bowl – it's just turned thinner and has a specific, predetermined shape – and holds your attention after turning as it is bent to final shape
- Secure foot/tenon in chuck – true up the blank to assure roundness/balance after remounting
- Note: using a 4 jaw chuck for the project; this may *not* be the convention – many turners use a faceplate at top of the hat; you can find information on the faceplate approach using the reference section below. Mounting the hat in the chuck minimizes 'height loss' in the blank due to screws in the faceplate; i.e., you may be able to get a hat from a smaller log
- Reference the demo and the sketch for details on making the hat
- Some pointers
 - The Ogee shape on the sides of the hat can improve appearance and aids fit on the jam chuck – hat goes oval as it dries, the sides can end up sloping inward if this slope not present
 - Band can be very slightly raised, though some turners do not leave any raised wood here
 - High lathe speed should provide cleaner cuts
 - Your flute may clog if you use a small gouge – a cup of water may help you dislodge build-up
 - Sand the top of the brim before starting on the underside - sanding the wet wood will clog paper quickly, but the brim starts moving when you turn it thin, so it can be a challenge to sand

7) Shaping the Brim and Interior of the Hat

- Reference the demo and the sketch for details on making the hat
- Some pointers
 - Check thickness with calipers frequently
 - Work to final thickness in phases – do not try to go back
 - Use light to judge thickness as you cut – brightness/intensity increases as you get thin
 - Keep tool rest close to working surface of the wood
 - Simple shape transitions and gentle curves are easier to turn - sharp transition points are more likely to crack during drying and bending
 - Use your 'favorite' gouge with a freshly sharpened edge
 - A scraper can work well on the inside/top of hat
 - Sand as you go in this phase – finish sand before you remove the hat from the chuck
 - Discuss thoughts on spraying/misting water during turning

8) Turning off the Tenon on the Top of the Hat

- Use a lighted jam chuck - Mount between centers and center the hat on the jam chuck using the cone of live center – it's very important that the hat is centered on the jam chuck –imbalance can cause a thin spot on one side of the top – this can ruin the hat
- When friction holds the hat on the jam chuck, remove 4-jaw chuck. With the hat already centered on the jam chuck, return the point of cone into the original dimple formed in the blank during rough turning
- Carefully tighten the tail stock to seat it on the jam chuck
- Take your time and let the transmittal of light guide your cuts
- Sand the top before removing the hat from the lathe
- If the 'nub' is present, remove with chisel, small saw, etc. – don't break it off –can leave a hole in your hat!

Tips for Turning a "Mini" Cowboy Hat (June 2015)

9) Bending and Drying

- Reference the demo for options for shaping the hat
- Some woods move more rapidly and extensively than others
- Including views on "pro"-style jigs, Rubber Bands, Clamps, Light for drying, etc.
- Should I coat the hat in thinned lacquer on the lathe?
- How much pressure to apply?
- Can you stop a crack in the brim?
- Should I tape the end-grain edges?
- What can you do if you get un-even bending of the hat brim?
- What about using a light to aid drying during the bend process?
- How long do you apply pressure?

10) Finishing

- Needs to be fully dry before you apply finish
- A light final sanding by hand is a good idea before the finish is applied
- Finish is a very personal decision – demonstrator uses spray lacquer – most folks seem to use lacquer or polyurethane, but you can use any finish you prefer
- Film building finish on a hat takes a lot of coats!

11) Displaying your hat

- A finished hat has an elegant shape and the dimension and curves of the hat are enhanced if the hat is elevated for display.
- They are fragile – it is best to have reasonable weight in the base of your stand

Miscellaneous Questions/Topics

- Can you prep blanks in advance?
- Do you need any special grind on your gouge to make a hat?
- Can you repair the hats if they break?

Online Reference Info:

Websites:

<http://chriswramsey.com>

<http://www.woodhat.com/>

<http://www.turnedtreasures.com/project.html/hat.html>

<http://www.woodcowboyhats.com/>

http://www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Turning_content/cowboy-hat/cbh1.html

Video links:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIMQprpzEM8> – video of Johannes Michelson

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u68R5mEE8h0> – video slideshow of Chris Ramsey

<http://www.woodturningtutorials.com/2012/06/jerry-measimers-cowboy-hat.html> - video of Jerry Measimer

Contact: Chuck Waldroup (336) 289-5750 (home); drouphpnc@aol.com; www.waldroupwoodworks.com

MINI-HAT

BASIC SHAPING

- 7 1/2" DIAMETER BRIM
- 2 1/2" HIGH TO TOP OF HAT
- BRIM AT 3/4" THICK

- TURN TO ~ 3 7/8"
- WORK DOWN TO 3 5/8"
- FORM OCEAN SHAPE AND BAND FROM 3 5/8" AT BRIM TO 3" AT TOP

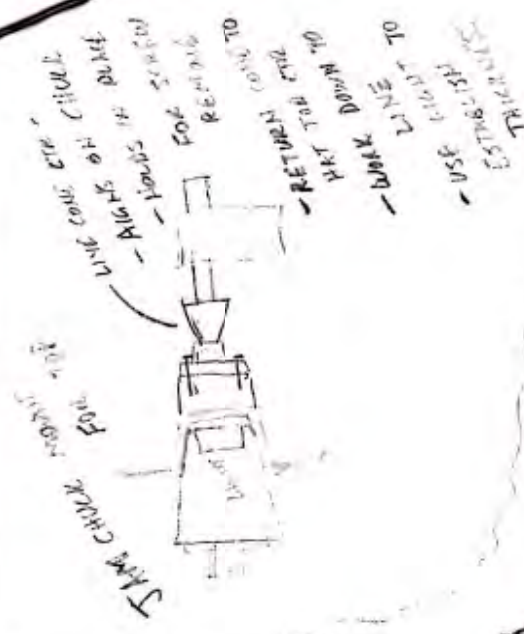
FACE PLATE

PLAN FOR SURF DEPTH FROM 3" - REDUCES - MINIMIZE FACE VIBRATION

USE 30" FACE PLATE AS GUIDE

SWELD ROTARY WITH SWELD COIL

ROUND HOSE SCRAMBLER



FORMING BRIM

- ① CREATE ROLL UP TO EDGE
- ② REMOVE TOP TO 3/8" FROM EDGE TO EDGE OF BAND - SAWY SIDE I TOU AT BAND - COLOR BAND
- ③ BEGIN REMOVING INTERIOR TO 1/4"



ESTABLISH TO 1/4" THICK

- REMOVE IN 1/4" INCREMENTS
- BACKLIGHT TO JUDGE THICKNESS
- CHECK WITH CALIPERS FREQUENTLY

7 3/4"

- DISINTEGRATOR USED WITH SPEED IN ALL PHASES

OPTION 2 - 3/4" THICK WORKS

LEGACY BITS

| | | |
|-----------------|-------|---|
| S203L | 8.54 | straight bit 3/8" |
| 205 | 8.70 | straight bit 1/2" |
| 2005 | 15.21 | spiral up cut 1/4" |
| 2005 | 15.21 | spiral up cut 1/4" |
| 2011 | 45.93 | spiral up cut 1/2" |
| 2704 | 53.08 | bottom cleaning bit 2" |
| 2704 | 53.08 | bottom cleaning bit 2" NEW |
| 351 | 21.97 | plunge button bit 5/8" |
| 3952 | 53.08 | classical spiral 2" |
| 3952 | 53.08 | classical spiral 2" NEW |
| 6053 | 36.64 | side fluting bit 3/32" |
| 706 | 23.13 | 90 degree V grooving bit 1" |
| 7502 | 23.03 | plunge point round 3/4" |
| 7551 | 36.10 | barley twist bit 1" |
| 7552 | 49.60 | barley twist 2" |
| 7554 | 41.80 | barley twist 1 1/2" |
| 7554 | 41.80 | barley twist 1 1/2" NEW |
| 7581 | 31.21 | rope moulding 1" |
| 7581 | 31.21 | rope moulding 1" NEW |
| 7591 | 19.94 | rope pen 1/2" |
| 7676 | 39.03 | side reeding bit 7/8" (1/8 bead radius) |
| xtreme xtension | 64.99 | This new extension works in any 1/2" router collet, allowing installation or removal of router bits from above your router table without the cumbersome wrenches and locking of the spindle usually required. The additional 1 1/4" length and 1" deep bore provide complete support of all 1/2" and 1/4" shank bits used with any thickness table or insert plate. |

Total in Bits is \$701.37

LEGACY BITS

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Stand | 200.00 |
| legacy 900 | 800.00 |
| motor | 895.00 |
| bag to catch chips | N/C |
| multiplier set | 220.00 |
| .25x reduction set | 200.00 |
| Total | \$3,320.00 |

Francis Moates
706-835-1459