

**South Coast Woodturners
Bart Stein Presentation
6/8/13**

Finishing Bowl Bottoms

Bart began by demonstrating and discussing a couple methods he uses to secure bowls while removing excess material from the bottom. In the first method he folded up cabinet padding and placed in the bottom of the bowl, putting the padding on the drive end of the lathe. He then brought up the tailstock to the center of the bottom. We were advised it might take some adjusting to hit the center. The next step is to remove material shaping the bottom. When using this process be sure to leave a small but stable stem on the bottom. You will finish the process after removing from the lathe and cutting the remaining stem with a sharp wood chisel or similar tool.

When removing material from the bottom of a bowl with a flat uniform lip there are some other options. A longworth chuck or a tool that can squeeze the bowl lip and secure it in place with the tail stock is another means of allowing for the remove of the bottom material as noted above. Bart also presented the concept of using the Modular Faceplate System and creating a jam chuck as another possibility to use with a flat uniform lipped bowl.

Using a Bowl Gouge

Bart demonstrated important concepts to gain the best outcome from the bowl gouge. We were reminded to present the bevel of the gouge against the wood to be cut and raising the handle to begin cutting. Another important concept is to think of the end grain of the wood in your project as a stack of straws. With that concept in mind it is important to cut into the stack by ensuring support from the surrounding grain (straws). When the wood grain is not supported (when not cutting into the stack) it is easy to get tear-out.

Members learned about using the wing of the cutting portion of the gouge for the shear cut. In the shear cut, the bottom portion of the gouge cutting wing is moved along the length of the project. Proper use of the shear cut should produce a fine shaving. Shear cutting with a sharp tool provides a surface that needs minimal sanding.

Bart offered advice to individual members for the shaping of the bowl gouge in the sharpening process. Members gained important skills from this demonstration. Club members are encouraged to practice what we learned in the training.

Ike