

Last Meeting

Last month was the Christmas party. There were about 60 in attendance with the Wood crafters and spouses. We had lots of turning blanks and a few other door prizes to distribute to the member who were there. A show and tell session was for items brought by both the turners and crafters, and lots of good food for all.



<http://www.corridorturners.org/>

Next Meeting

The Next meeting of the Corridor Woodturners will be held at 6:30 PM on January 10, at the Marion High School wood shop, 675 S. 15th St. Marion, Iowa

The topic will be "Bowl Bottoms"

1. Introduction; why should we make pretty bottoms? - Tom Mills
2. Cole jaws: cost, safety and live center options - Tom Mills
3. Jam chuck and how to get a tight fit, what to do if you over-cut or if your item is warped - John Cox
4. Donut chuck, how it works, how to attach it to the lathe, buy it or make it, safety aspects - Tom Nehl
5. Vacuum chuck, when it's the best option, typical costs - Tim Wehr
6. Design aspects; sanding and finishing, signing your work, and wrap-up - Tom Mills

Dues are Due

As we start a new year, the time to renew your membership is at hand. Please go to the web page and download the renewal form and present it and your payment to John Sandor at the meeting. You have until the March meeting to get this done for the new year. The dues remain at \$25 per year or \$30 for a family.



Message from the President

I wish the best of health, happiness and good turning experience in 2019!!! I can personally attest that 2018 flew by very quickly.



It was a year ago that we were talking about the Corridor Woodturners participating in the 2018 Cedar Valley Woodcarvers Show in Hiawatha -- Well good news -- The addition of Woodturning at the event has brought the 2nd Annual opportunity for YOU as well as the Corridor Woodturners to participate. March 2nd and 3rd at the Kirkwood Regional Center, Boyson Rd in Hiawatha. You can sell and show your turnings as well as participate in a judging of your turnings in specific categories. Stacy and Tom Nehl have more information on the event.

The Christmas Party was attended by 60+ individuals! It was a great time for food and fellowship. Every CWT member went home with a "gift" of wood (to add to your collection).

Bruce Kruse Hopefully your schedule will afford your attendance in 2019!!!

January 2019 Monthly Meeting will be Thursday 6:30 PM, January 10th at the Marion High School. Project of the Month will be "Something turned from Christmas Party Gift wood OR Something turned --inspired by a Janice Levi technique". The Monthly program will be a great topic -- How to finish turning BOWL BOTTOMS.

The CWT Board of Directors will be planning 2019 events and monthly meetings so we can use your input. If you have any program topics, please let one of the CWT Board Members know your thoughts.

March 2019 will be our election of CWT Officers and Directors. If you have interest in participating on the Board, please let your interest be known. The Board Meetings are the 4th Thursday of the Month at 6:30 PM and run approximately 90 minutes.

The Janice Levi Seminar provided us the opportunity to review and update our Lathe/ video / audio system. If you did not attend the event, we now have a RPM readout prominently displayed toward the viewing audience, so you can now see "how fast" the presenter is turning. Tom Nehl also built an enclosed cabinet below the lathe to better serve the function and equipment.

I am unable to attend our January 10th Monthly meeting at the Marion High School Woodshop, due to business travel. Tom Nehl will preside and keep you well informed!!
Happy Turning!!!

Bruce

For Sale

Have something for sale? Let the club members know about it here. Get the info to John Cox to be added to the next newsletter.

Tim Weir has a used compound miter saw for sale. DeWalt DW705, 12". Works well. \$75.
Contact Tim at the meeting.



Mini Hollowing Jig

Paul Rohrbacher will be taking orders for has designed and built Mini Laser Guided Hollowing systems. The handle is 1" dia. knurled aluminum. The Laser Mount is centered on the handle. There is an sharpened 1/8" allen wrench one end and a 3/16" sharpened allen wrench on the opposite end. The allen wrenches are long shaft. The laser is adjusted to shine on the tip of the sharpened allen wrench. By shining on the cutting edge, parallax isn't a problem, this jig is perfect for hollowing the first several inches inside a small opening where commercially available cutters have problems reaching the wood at the entrance area. Each Mini Hollowing jig complete with the laser and allen wrenches will cost \$40.

He also may have a Ball jig to fit a Powermatic lathe available.

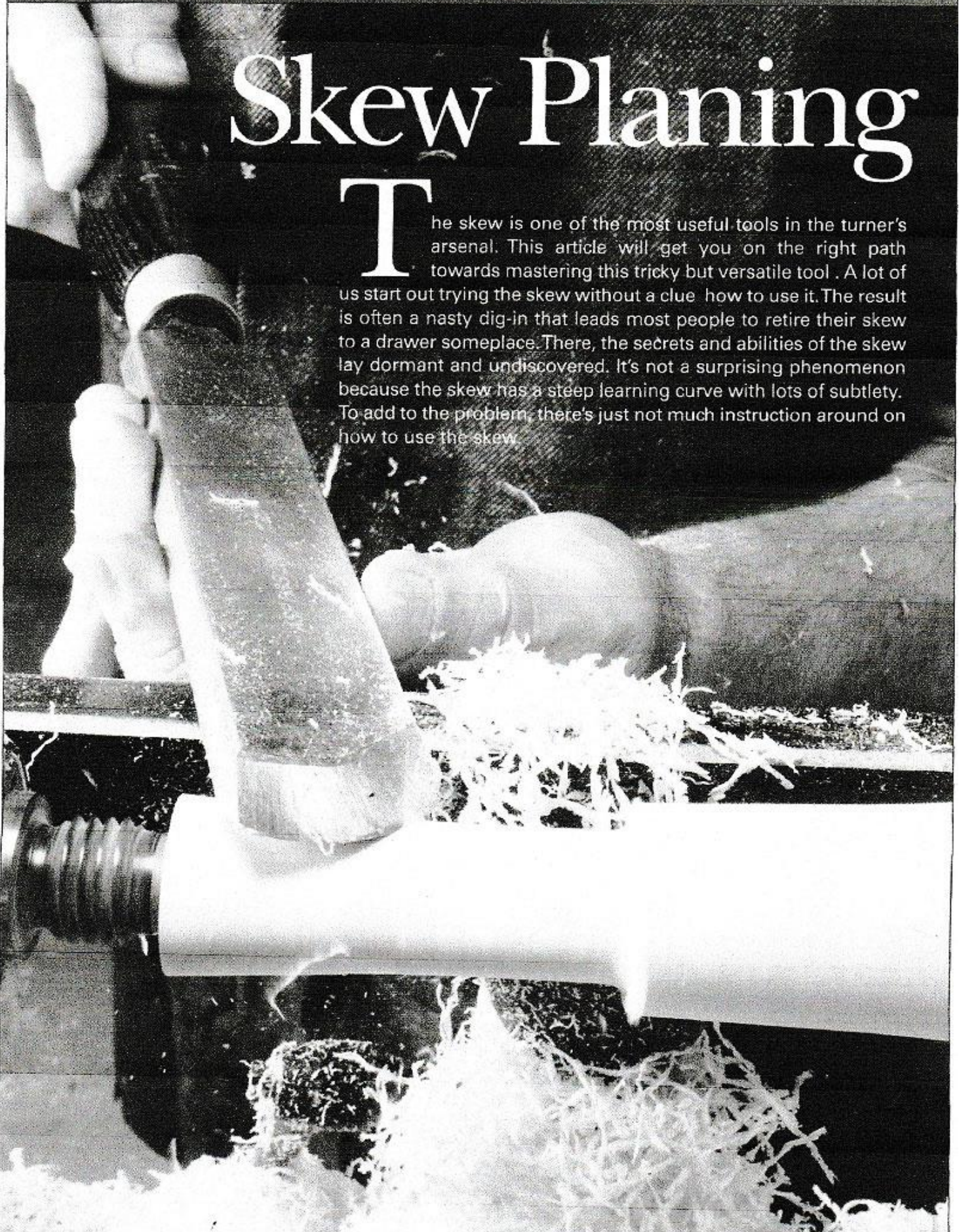
Contact Paul at the meeting for more information.

TURNING WOOD

by Alan Lacer

Skew Planing

The skew is one of the most useful tools in the turner's arsenal. This article will get you on the right path towards mastering this tricky but versatile tool. A lot of us start out trying the skew without a clue how to use it. The result is often a nasty dig-in that leads most people to retire their skew to a drawer someplace. There, the secrets and abilities of the skew lay dormant and undiscovered. It's not a surprising phenomenon because the skew has a steep learning curve with lots of subtlety. To add to the problem, there's just not much instruction around on how to use the skew.



I have been teaching students how to master the skew for decades. I always start with skew planing as the fundamental skew cut. Once you master this cut, you will be well on your way to confident use of the tool. I'll first show you how to practice the cut. Plan on working a number of practice pieces before tackling actual projects. In future articles we will build on this foundation and look at other more advanced skew cuts.

APPLICATIONS

The number one application for the planing cut is spindle work where the grain of the wood is parallel to the bed of the lathe. Planing cuts are used to create cylinders, tapers and shallow concave or convex cuts. After practice with planing cuts, I encourage my students to make their own tool handles using a skew. It's a great first project to hone your new skew planing skills.

THE RIGHT SKEW

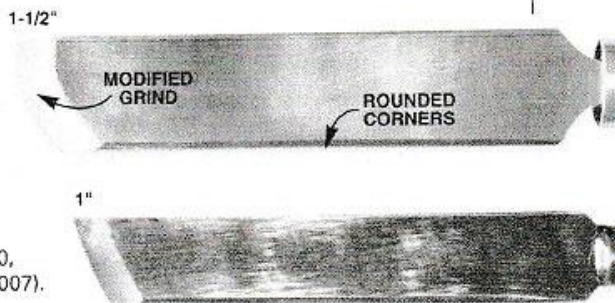
A wide skew is best for planing cuts (Photo 1). It's extremely important that the skew be very sharp. The degree of control with this tool is in direct proportion to the degree of sharpness. Be sure that the corners behind the cutting edge are softened or rounded over all the way back to the ferrule. This allows the tool to glide across the tool rest with a smooth motion.

The modified grind that I favor (curved edge for the lower two-thirds, straight across for the upper third) has one huge advantage for the planing cut: if you maintain the cut in the curved section you will almost always avoid a dig-in. Also, a curved edge cuts cleaner in woods that tend to chip. For more on how to tune-up your skew chisel, see "Reshaping The Skew Chisel," p. 40, AW #127, March 2007.

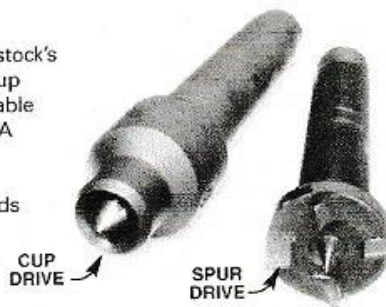
PREPARE THE LATHE

The next step is to prepare the lathe itself. I strongly recommend using a cup drive rather than the spur center that came with your lathe (Photo 2). Finally, check the tool rest and file out any nicks

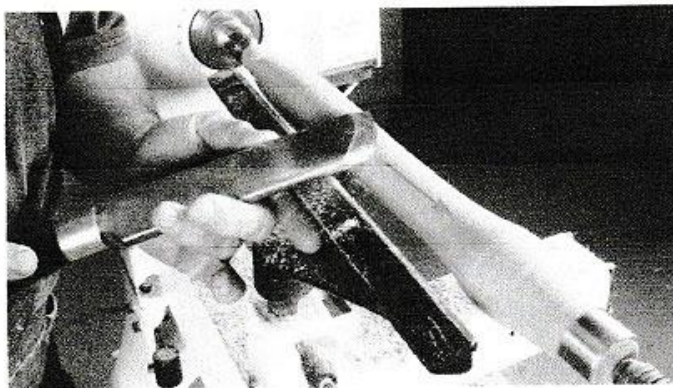
1 I prefer a large 1-1/2in. or 1-in. skew for planing. The modified grind on the large skew makes the tool easier to use (see "Reshaping The Skew Chisel," p. 40, AW #127, March 2007).



2 Replace your headstock's spur drive with a cup drive. A catch is inevitable when you're learning. A cup drive slips like a clutch to minimize a catch; a spur drive holds fast to the wood and aggravates a catch.



3 Start your practice cuts about 1-in. from the cylinder's right end. Cut with the tool's lower half, or short point, leading the cut. Rest the skew on one of its rounded corners—not flat on the tool rest. Rub the bevel on the cylinder, then gently lift the handle until the edge cuts into the wood without losing contact with the bevel. Slowly advance the tool to the left.

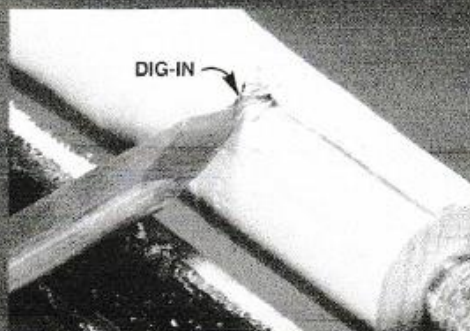


4 Practice planing in the opposite direction. Reverse your hands or shift your body around. Experiment with your front hand either below or on top of the tool.

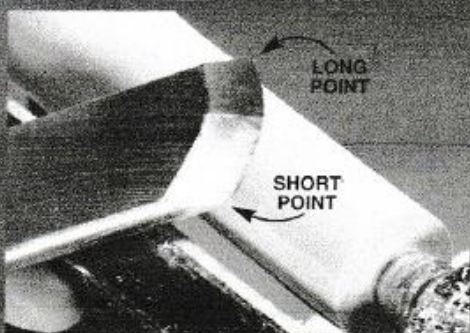
TURNING WOOD

TYPICAL PROBLEMS
AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

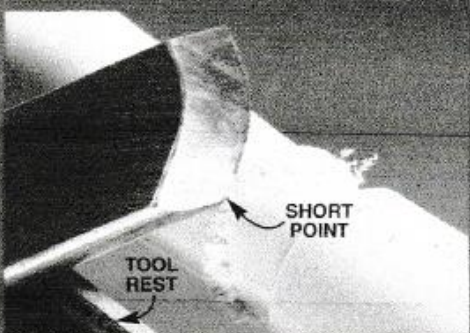
AVOID DIG-INS



5 A dig-in can be dramatic, especially when using a spur drive on dry hardwood. You'll get a dig-in if the unsupported trailing edge or long point of the tool catches and is pulled down into the wood.



6 Avoid dig-ins by using the lower 2/3 of your tool, starting just above the short point. Stay away from the red zone indicated above.



7 The short point can safely enter the cut because it is supported by the tool rest. It's sometimes used to cut up to a detail although it tends to fray the fibers a bit.

“Once you master the planing cut, you will be well on your way to confident use of the skew.”

or dents with a mill file. Finish prepping the tool rest by rubbing on a little paraffin wax. Now your skew can glide effortlessly across the rest as it cuts.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Start with a 2" x 2" x 8" square blank mounted between centers. I suggest a softer wood like yellow poplar or red alder that's straight grained and free of knots. Cut-up 2 x 4's will do in a pinch. Just be sure to cut out the knots.

Always wear a full faceshield. With the lathe set to a moderate speed (900 to 1400 rpm) use a spindle-roughing gouge to create a cylinder. In time you will enjoy roughing short pieces like this by planing with the skew.

Start your practice cuts with the skew at the right end of the cylinder (Photo 3). Slowly advance the tool to the left until you reach the edge of the wood. Turn off the lathe and admire the quality of the cut surface. Develop your skill by cutting both directions on the cylinder (Photo 4). Also, be sure to always cut "downhill" (larger to smaller diameters) when there is a variation in diameter.

TYPICAL PROBLEMS WITH
PLANING CUTS

DIG-INS

This is perhaps the most feared problem as it does considerable damage to the wood and to your nerves. A dramatic dig-in often causes new turners to reject the skew as having a mind of its own and a vicious one at that. As a consequence they miss out on all the skew has to offer the serious turner. A dig-in always happens when the unsupported portion of the tool (the long point or trailing edge) is pulled into the wood (Photo 5).

To avoid dig-ins, use a large skew and stay within the lower two-thirds of the edge (Photo 6). Even if you cut with the short point or leading edge of the skew, it won't dig-in (Photo 7).

Library Information

Do you use the literature library? What items would you like to see added, what would make it easier to use? See Gary Nosek and make your wishes known.

Dues Structure and Meeting Attendance Policy

Club dues are:

\$25.00 per year for an General membership.

\$30.00 per year for a Family membership

\$100.00 per year for a Supporting membership.

Dues are for the calendar year January 1 thru December 31 with a grace period ending at the close of the February meeting. New membership cards will be distributed at the March meeting.

Dues paid in September and later by **NEW** members will be considered in force for the rest of that calendar year plus the following calendar year.

Potential members may attend two meetings as a guest then must either join the club or pay 1/4 of the current general membership fee to attend a regular meeting.

The Help Corner with John Sandor



This months contribution is the preceding article on Skew Planing by Alan Lacer from an article in The American Woodturner, January 2008.