

Long Island Woodturner's Association Newsletter



Nov 16, 2019

Pen Turning

Barry Saltsberg



LIWA is a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. Our purpose is to foster a wider interest and appreciation of woodturning on Long Island and in the Metropolitan area. We generally meet on the third Saturday of each month from 9:00 AM until Noon at the Old Bethpage Village Restoration, Bethpage, L.I. See listing below for 2019 scheduled meetings:



Upcoming Meeting Schedule for 2019 and 2020. All meetings run from 8:00 am to 12 noon

John Kowalchuk will be hosting the Tuesday Morning meeting at his home on Dec 3, 2019 from 9am until noon. All members are welcome. If any new members need directions to his house, please call him at 631-234-1999

December 21 (Dizzy Bowls – John Kowalchuk) and Holiday Party

January 25 2020

Feb 22

Mar 21

Apr 25

May 16

Jun 20

July and August Dates TBD

Sept 12

Sept 26 (yes, instead of Oct)

Nov 28

Dec 19

Current Club Officers

President Les Hoffman (516) 431-2280

Vice President Peter Richichi (631) 218-2481

Secretary/Newsletter Barry Dutchen (516) 443-5342

Treasurer Joe DeMaio (516) 766-5189

Thanks to Bob Fentress for taking photos.

Summary of meeting

From our president, Les: Long Island Fair will be held in August 2020, not September.

We asked all members present to fill out a survey. Anyone who missed this can fill out the survey at the December meeting.

Also, at the December meeting: We will hold the election of officers, Board members, committee appointments will also be announced.

Ken led the fund-raising charity auction.

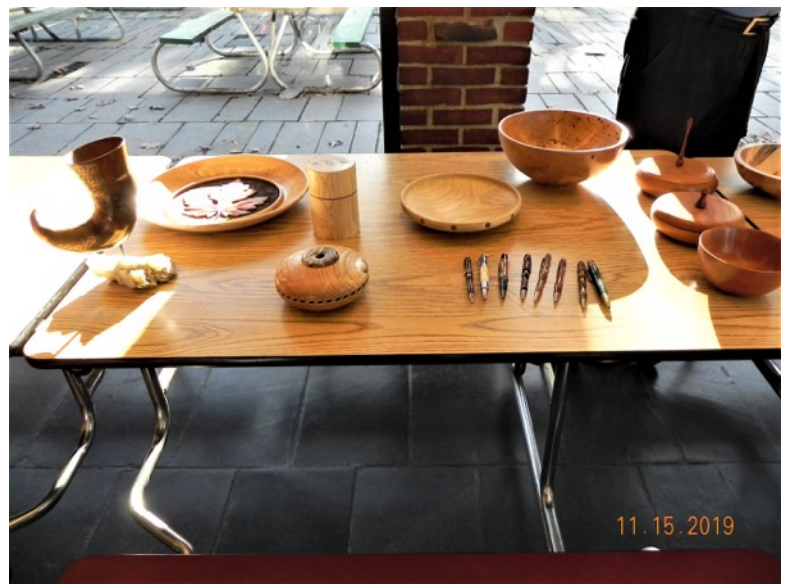
This is the donation we made to the Beads of Courage program.



Welcome to our newest member: Robert Lee from Garden City.



Show and Tell





Presenter: Barry Saltsberg

Topic: Pen Turning

Barry will be demonstrating the process of turning a *slimline* type pen. Before cutting a slightly oversize blank into two pieces, he placed an alignment mark on the blank. He inserted one of two pieces of spalted red oak into a 4-jaw chuck using spigot jaws. He placed a 7mm drill bit into the tailstock (using a Jacobs chuck). At low speed, he drilled a hole through the first section (withdrawing the bit frequently to keep it cool.) A drill press could also be used.

He repeated this with the shorter piece.

The kit he showed contained a brass tube. He recommended checking the outside of the tube to see if might need to be roughened up with fine sandpaper to make it better able to grip the adhesive you'll use later. Apply a coat of thick CA glue (some people use epoxy or urethane glue) to the outside of the tube. Spray the inside of the blank with accelerator. Use a tapered insertion jig to hold the tube and wooden blank. Insert the tube. Repeat with the shorter tube and blank.

Place a barrel trimmer on the tailstock and one section in the jaws of the headstock. Advance the trimmer at slow speed until each of the ends are smooth.



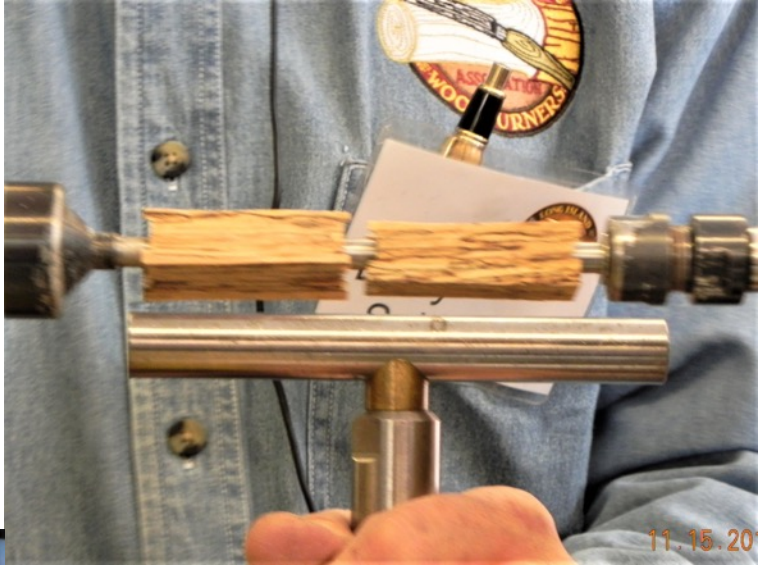
Remove the pieces and the barrel trimmer from the lathe. Assemble the sections with barrel inserts to match the pen size. Use spacers (mandrel savers) from the kit (or calipers). (see photos). Place the sections on the lathe (mandrel goes on to the headstock, then the sections.)



Adjust the tool rest. Barry prefers to use a skew, held so that the lower 1/3 is held at an angle to the wood, but some turners like the roughing gouge or spindle gouge, to round the blanks. Take care to not cut into the spacers.

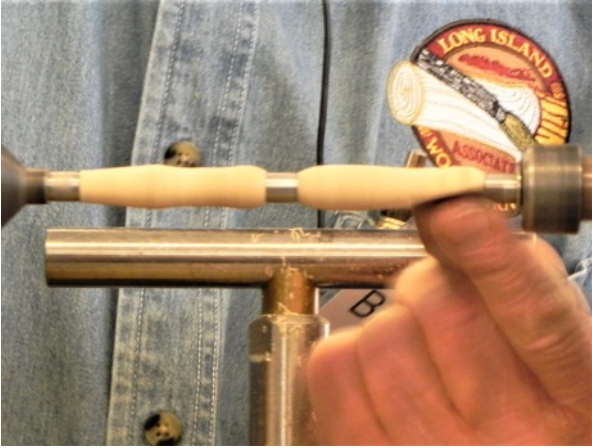
Make the pieces slightly concave and round off each of the ends slightly, with the diameter to match the mandrel bushings.

Turn to a smooth transition.

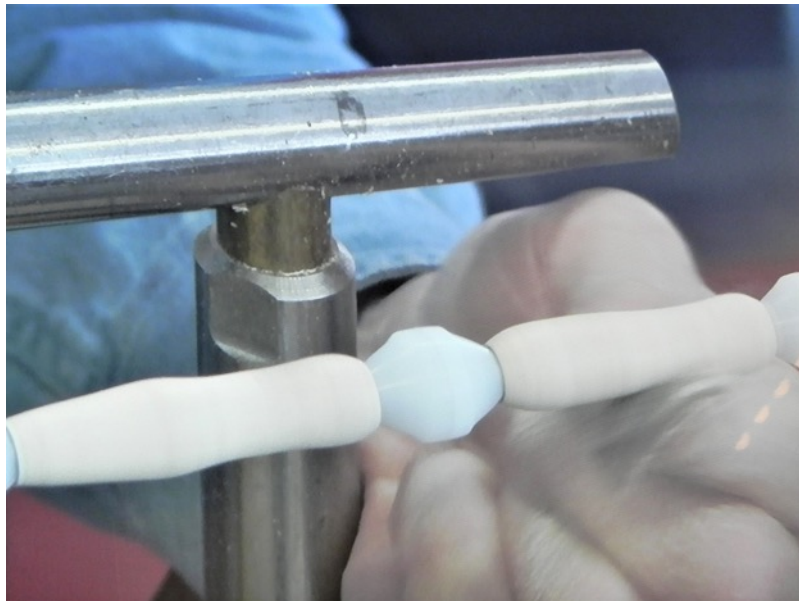




Then sand to 600 grit.



Remove the metal bushing and replace with nylon one supplied in the kit. This will prevent the CA finish from sticking.



Finishing:

Barry finishes his pens using multiple layers of CA glue and strips of paper towels to friction dry. He recommends first spraying the blanks with shellac sealer to prevent blush occurring (this is a white layer forming under the finish.)

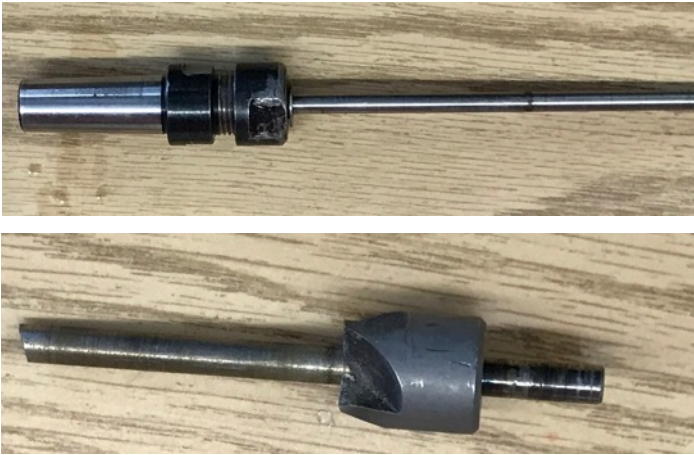
Wear disposable gloves and set the lathe to run slowly (~300). Spray the pen with accelerator. Apply a few drops of thin CA adhesive on a strip of paper. Hold the paper to the pen and apply the adhesive. Use a slight amount of pressure and slide from left to right. Repeat until a shine is achieved. Stop the lathe and look closely to see if the surface is level. Apply more if needed. Sand to 600g to assure that the CA is level. Now wet sand from 1500g to 12,000g.



Remove from lathe and assemble the pieces into a pen using the parts from the kit. Assemble in order, applying pressure with the assembly jig to force parts together.

Many pen makers purchase parts kits such as this one:

Turning mandrel and trimmer



Thank you to Barry for an informative and fun demonstration

