Pyrography (wood Burning) Demonstration

For the Detroit Area Woodturners
With Craig Drozd and Matt Harber
Techniques

• Basic strokes with skew and spade tips.
• Some custom tips and some possibilities.
• Texturing, with standard tips and custom tips.
• How to make custom tips.
• Burning/texturing with the Dremel.
• Transferring patterns, shapes, and layout ideas.
• Shading, landscapes, portraits.
• Coloring pyrography.
• Celtic braids.
Styles

• Drawing
  • Burning a design onto the surface

• Branding
  • Removing wood with high heat/fire
Tools

- Burners – store bought or DIY model
- Headpieces and tips (nibs)
- Work piece rest and arm rest
- Fan
- Tip cleaning brush or sandpaper
- X-acto Knives
- Good light
- Magnified Glasses (if you have eyes like mine)
Burners

• There are many choices:
  • Burnmaster
  • Colwood
  • Detail Master
  • Everglades
  • Nibsburner
  • Optima
  • Razertip

• Another option is to build one yourself from a battery charger (*I would not recommend this as your only burner*)
Nibs

• Types – The three basic tips are the skew, shader and writing

• Home made – Anyway you can bend the wire
Pens

• Store bought – They come in multiple sizes and styles.
  • vented to allow heat to escape, non-vented
  • Metal or plastic
  • Padding for finger grip and comfort
  • Fixed tip or replaceable tips

• Home made
  • Making your own pens allows you to create a shape and size that fits your hand
Sample Boards

• Sample boards are a great way to reference designs when trying to determine what might work best on your turning
• They also let you explore what's possible with the different tips
Examples
References

• Lora Irish: Great Book of Woodburning
• Lora Irish (web): http://www.lsirish.com/tutorials/pyrography-tutorials/
• Sue Walters: Pyrography workbook
• Sue Walters (web): http://www.suewalters.com/PyroSchool.html
• Simon Easton: Woodburning with Style
• Stephen Poole: The Complete Pyrography
• George Bain: Celtic Art, The Methods of Construction
Image transfer

• Pencil on the work piece
• Graphite paper
• Blender pen and laser printout
Layout Templates

• Included here are two templates that can be used to lay out designs on turned pieces, platters, bowl rims, etc.