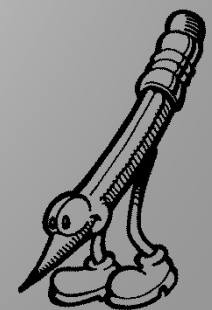


# PEN BASICS AND BEYOND

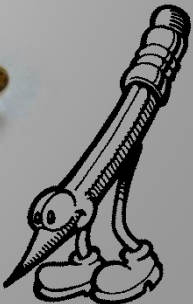
John Dekle



# PENS BASICS AND BEYOND

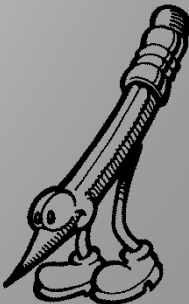


- **June 1997 1<sup>st</sup> lathe**
- **Start – segmented bowl**
- **No instruction on use of tools – gluing**
- **OJT**
- **Joined Honolulu club 08**
- **Club Challenge**
- **2009.**



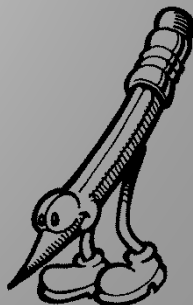
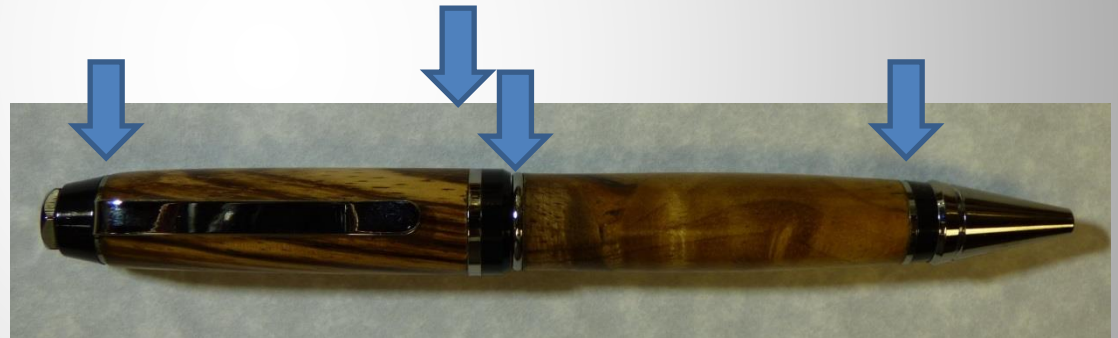
# 1 SAFETY

- **Always Face protection**
- **Beware – dangerous clothing**
- **Consider environment**
- **Don't turn when tired/stressed**
- **Enjoy turning.**



# 2 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

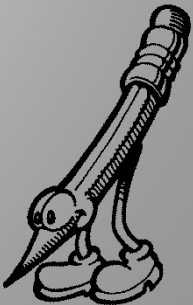
- ABCs
  - Anchor, Bevel, Cut
- Bushings
  - Guide
  - Calipers
  - Storage.



# 2 GENERAL PRINCIPLES



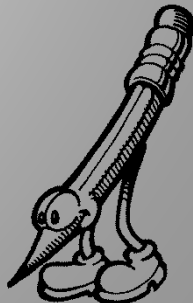
- **Cut**
  - Gently knock off edges
  - If blank stops
    - Less aggressive cuts
    - Tighten quill
    - Increase speed.



# 2 GENERAL PRINCIPLES



- **Drill center hole**
  - Mark 2 part - pen grain orientation
  - Drill (pen vise)
    - Drill press – 90 degrees
    - Lathe (Pin/Pen Jaw)
    - Start from center
    - Long bit – start shorter
    - Clear flutes frequently
    - Backer piece/stop short.



# 2 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- **Equipment needed:**

- Lathe

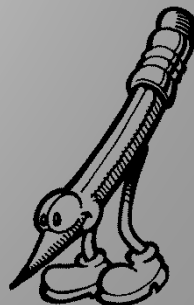
- 7mm Mandrel

- 60° live center or mandrel saver

- Barrel trimmer/squaring jig

- Pen kits available

- Pen blank (examples).



# 2 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- Equipment needed
  - Adhesive CA, BLO, or Epoxy



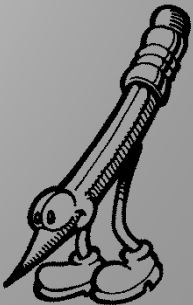
- Insertion tool helpful.





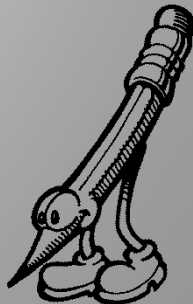
## 2 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- **Sharp turning tool**
- **Safety gear**
- **Sand paper (micro mesh)**
- **Finish**
  - CA, BLO, Beall Buff, Renaissance wax
- **Pen Press**
  - vise, clamp, lathe, drill press.



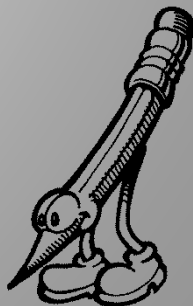
# 3 PREPARATION TO TURN

- **Selection**
  - Pen style
  - Pen blank
  - Unique feature
- **Cut blank to size**
  - Pay attention to grain orientation
- **Drill hole for brass tube.**



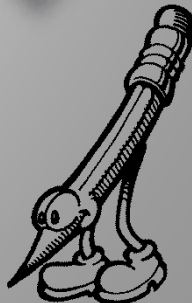
# 3 PREPARATION TO TURN

- **Glue tubes in**
  - Scuff if not pre-etched
- **Square the ends**
  - Sharpen if needed
- **Mount with correct bushings**
  - Consistent orientation
  - Use 60° live center/mandrel saver.



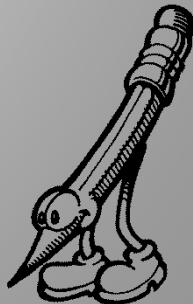
# 4 TURN AND SAND

- Bushings – calipers
- Turn then sand
  - 150 to change
  - 220 if turned well
- The finer the slower
- Sand with grain
- Be careful – sand dark to light.



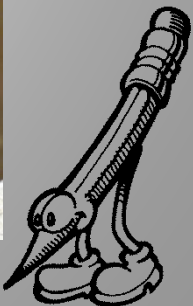
# 5 APPLY THE FINISH

- Clean blank – denatured alcohol
- Fold paper towel -  $\frac{1}{2}$  &  $\frac{1}{3}$
- Slow lathe apply stripe CA
- Immediately apply stripe BLO
- Keep moving
- Gradually increase speed.



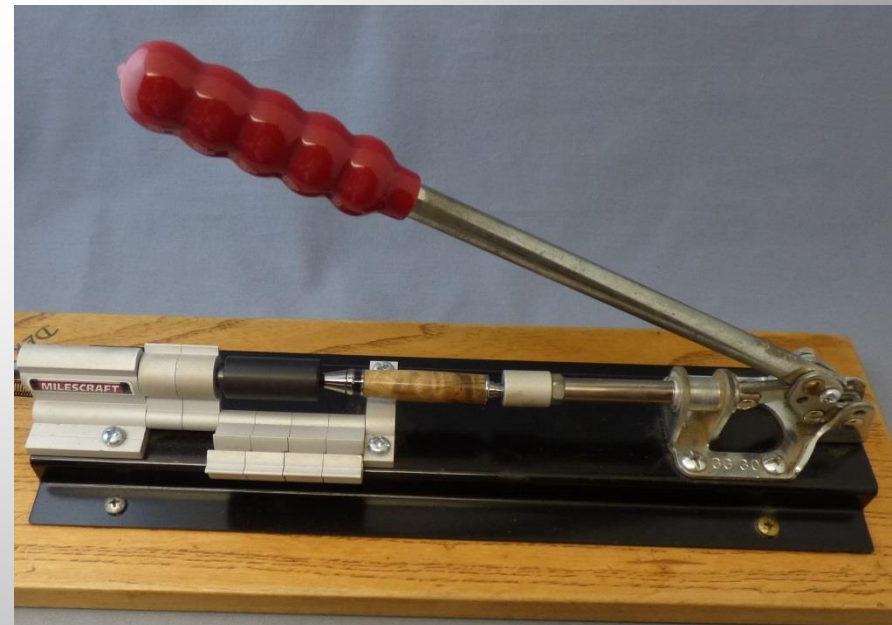
# 5 APPLY THE FINISH

- Rub until dry
- Repeat 8 more times
- Remove mandrel & blank – Buff
- Return to lathe
  - Renaissance wax
  - Haze
  - Polish



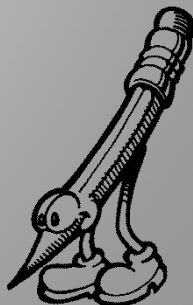
# 6 ASSEMBLE THE PEN

- **Follow the directions**
  - Supplies, Prep, Turning, Assembly
  - Save directions
- **Be careful to keep orientation correct**
- **Assemble by directions.**



# 7 PRESENTATION

- **Add value with good presentation**
- **Information regarding pen**
  - **Material in blank**
  - **Turner**
  - **Pen & filler style**
  - **Finish**
  - **Contact info**
  - **MSRP.**





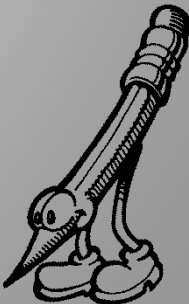
# § PRICE TO SELL

- **If you want to give away – do so**
- **Don't undercut people**
  - **Low price diminishes the value of your work**
- **Distributors suggest prices**
- **Set prices – give discounts.**



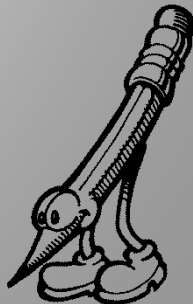
## 9 GENERAL TIPS

- **Brass tube may be different sizes**
- **Be careful turning milled ends**
  - If bushing too close - add a spacer
- **If blank is not round turn it a little**
  - Mandrel bent/lathe not aligned
- **Some kits – don't trim brass tube.**

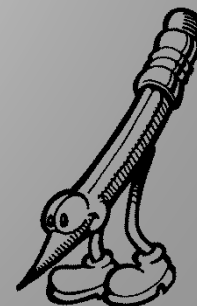


# 9 GENERAL TIPS

- **Tip of filler too long**
  - Assembled wrong
  - Disassembly kit
  - Remove plastic filler cap – sand
- **Don't sand bushings**
- **Don't loose bushing in shavings**
- **Press straight – no angle.**

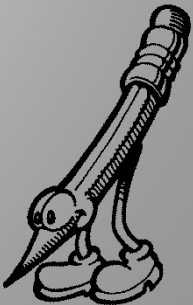


# 10 TURN A MODIFIED SLIM LINE



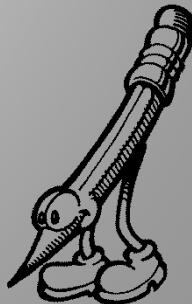
# 10 TURN A MODIFIED SLIM LINE

- **Advantage**
  - More heft
  - Single piece pen
- **Blank  $4\frac{1}{8}$  -  $4\frac{1}{4}$ "**
- **Glue one tube only**
- **Bottom tube floats free**
- **Mill tip end proud of brass tube.**



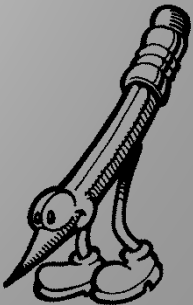
# 10 TURN A MODIFIED SLIM LINE

- Press cap & clip in place
- Remove floating tube
- Press tip then transmission in tube
- Add filler & insert in blank
- Transmission fits snug into brass tube
- Extend filler – turn the tip.



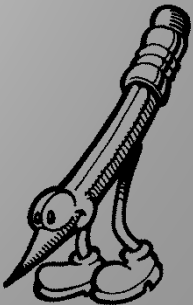
# TURN A MODIFIED SLIM LINE

Notes were in the newsletter



# 11 GOING BEYOND

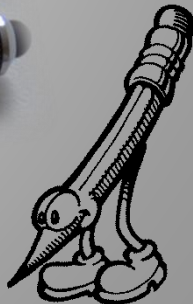
- **Going beyond basics – unique**
- **Quality is in the details**
  - Smooth transition
  - Clean between grits
  - Finish that looks & feels great, endures
  - Quality pen kits & refill
  - Case to hold the pen.





# 11 GOING BEYOND

- Order special clips
- Special or significant remembrance.

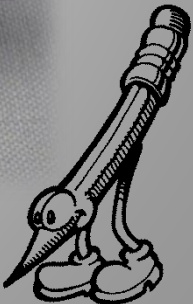


# 11 GOING BEYOND

- Place the clip for accent or cover



- Fill cracks with epoxy & color.

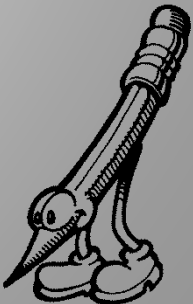


# 11 GOING BEYOND

- Use a burl or special wood

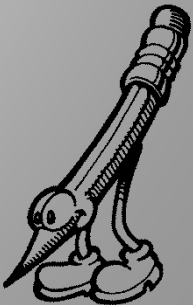
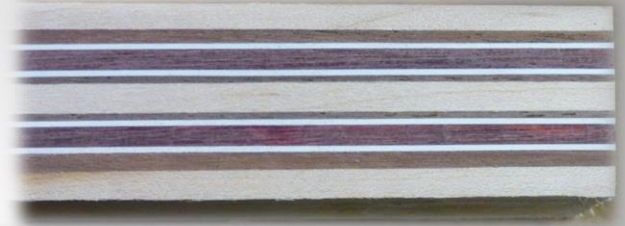


- Diamond wood can be dramatic.



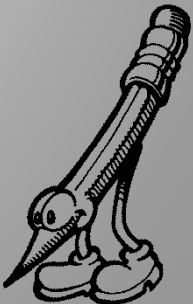
# 11 GOING BEYOND

- Segmented



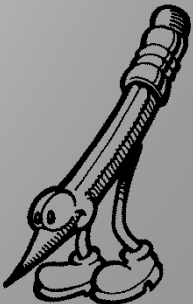
# 11 GOING BEYOND

- Segmented



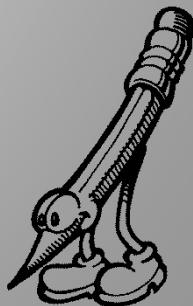
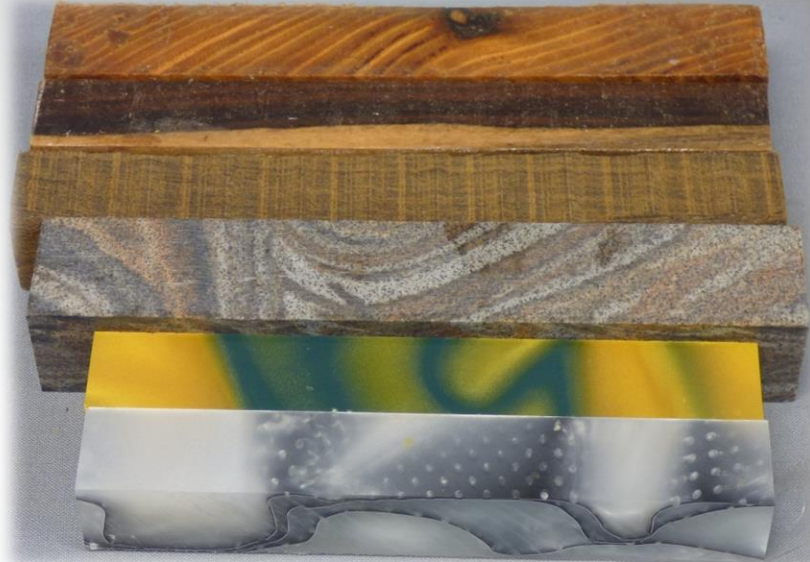
# 11 GOING BEYOND

- **Variety plating & quality (– to + wear)**
  - **Black Chrome, Satin, 24k gold, 10k gold, Chrome, Gun Metal, Rhodium/Platinum, Gold/Black Titanium**
  - **Antique Copper & Brass, Pewter**



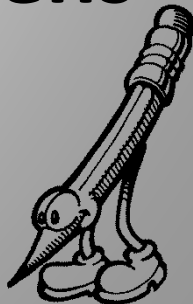
# 11 GOING BEYOND

- **Pen blanks**
  - Various woods
  - Variety of Acrylics
  - Dimensional lumber
  - Left over scraps from other projects.



# 11 GOING BEYOND

- **There's a whole realm of creative pen making involving**
  - **PolyClay**
  - **Casting acrylics & resin**
  - **Laser cut inserts**
  - **Using carbon fiber for steampunk pens**
  - **Stabilizing or using pressure pots.**



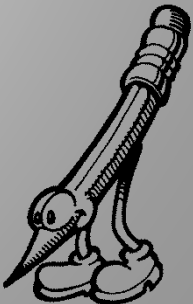


# 11 GOING BEYOND

- Acrylic pen blanks available

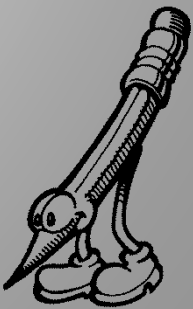


- Embellish the blank.



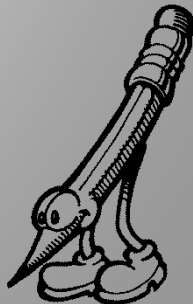
# 11 GOING BEYOND

- Use other material like antler.



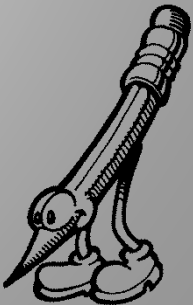
# 11 GOING BEYOND

- Experiment with paints & dyes.



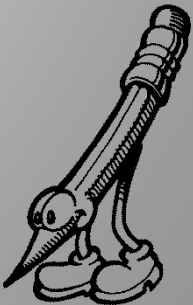
# 11 GOING BEYOND

- Higher end pens



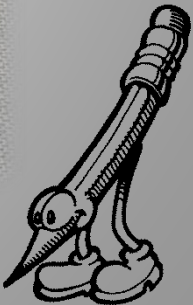
# 11 GOING BEYOND

- **Unique items**



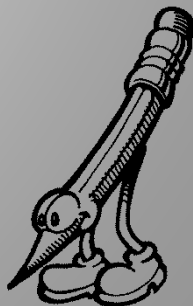
# 11 GOING BEYOND

- Put a Sunday Suit on a Pentel Pencil



# 11 GOING BEYOND

- **Make a desk Pen from a Bic stick pen**



# 11 GOING BEYOND

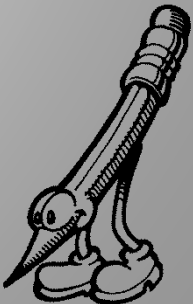


5/32" bit  
← 6" long



# 11 GOING BEYOND

- **Serpentine pen**
  - American  
Woodturner  
Oct. 2017

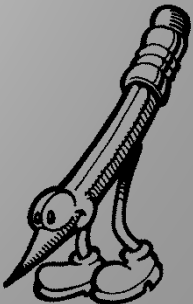


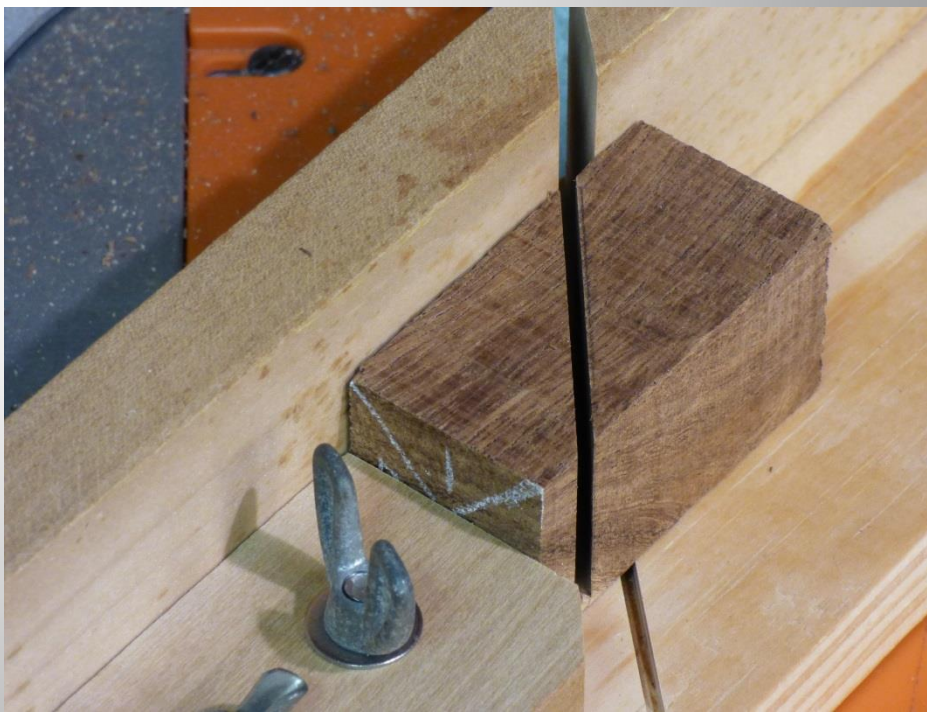
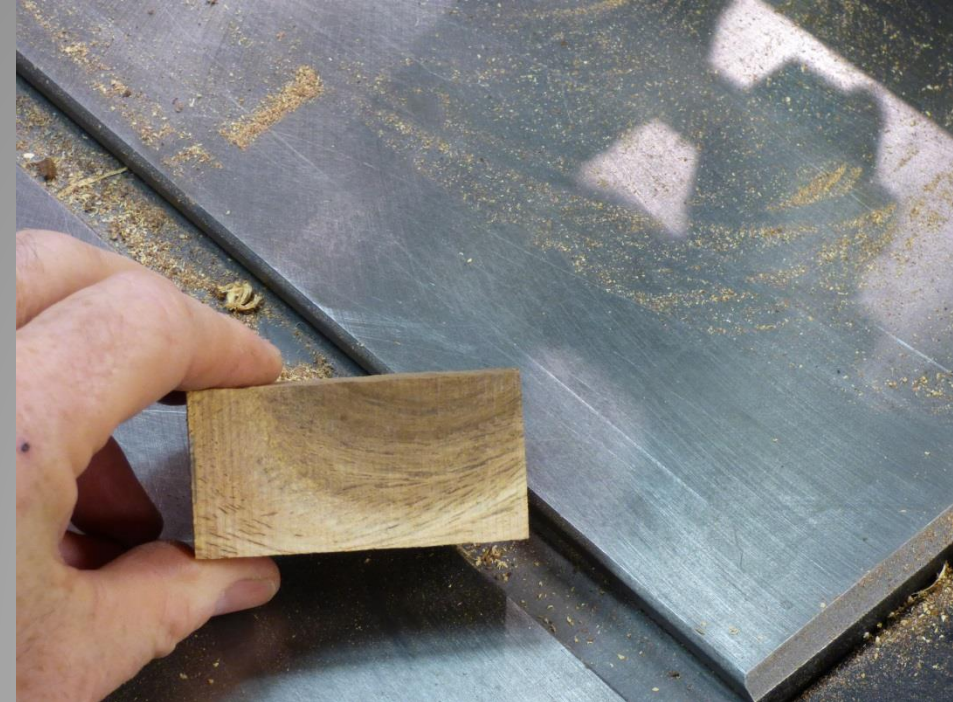
# 11 GOING BEYOND

- Celtic knot



- Kerf of saw blade will determine the width of the knot segments
- A jig is essential to make even cuts.

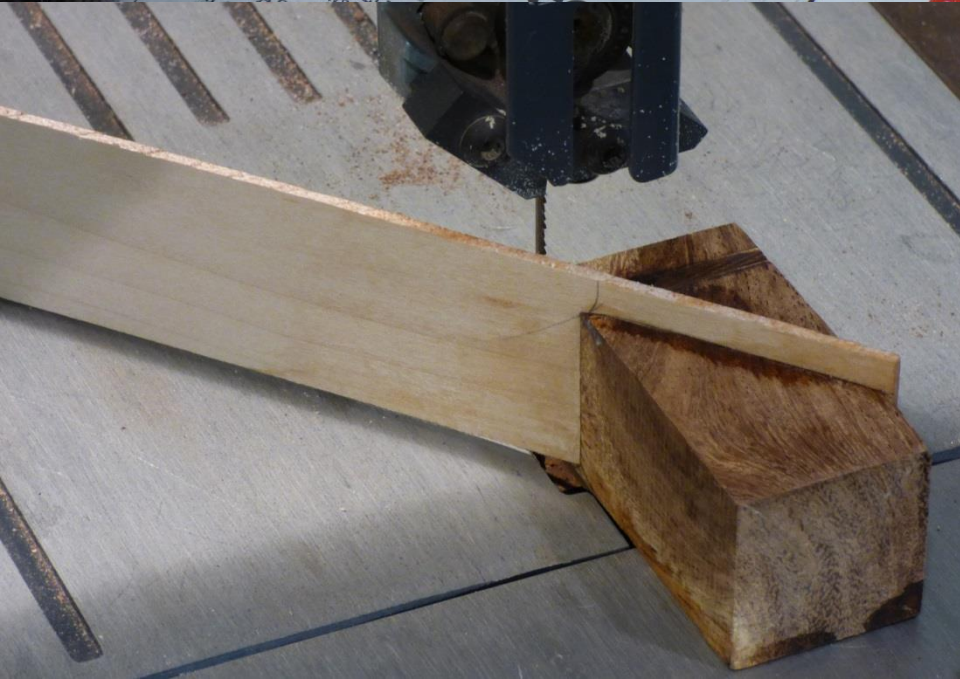
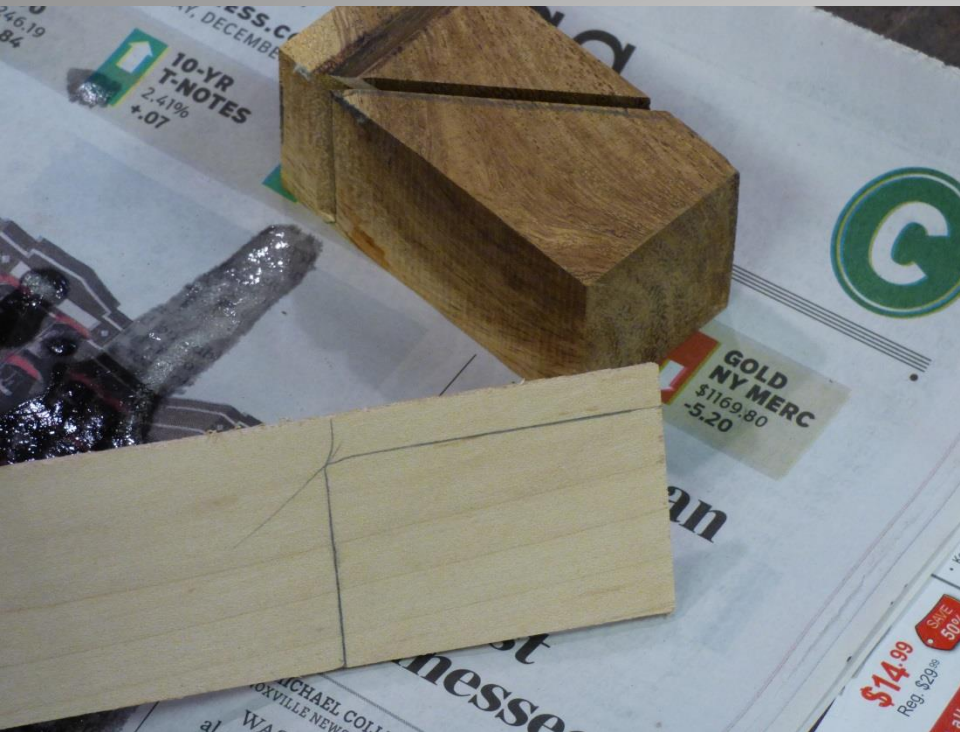


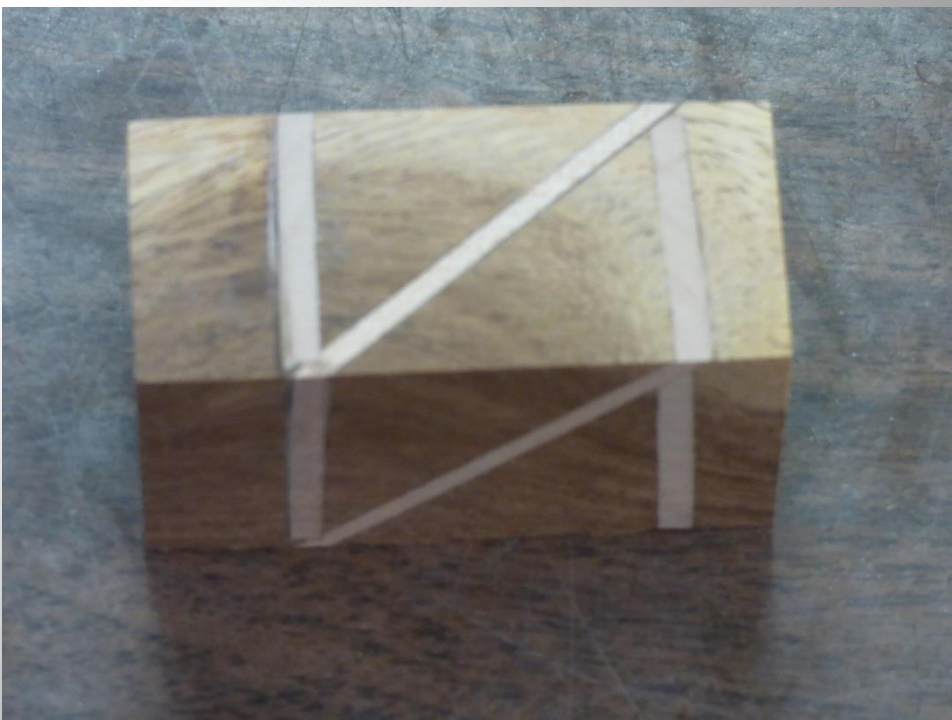
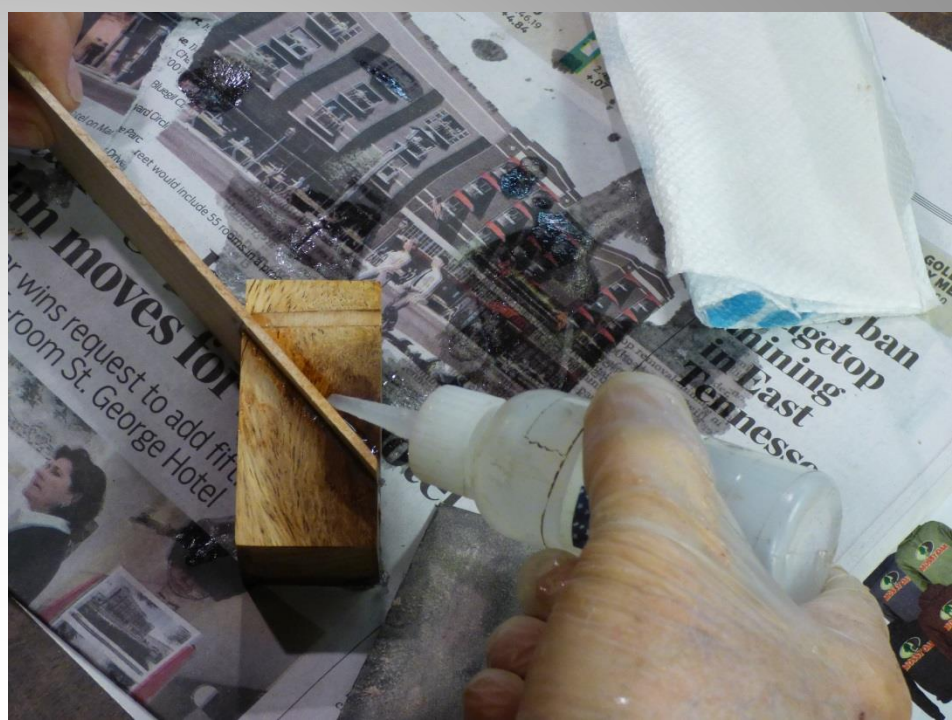




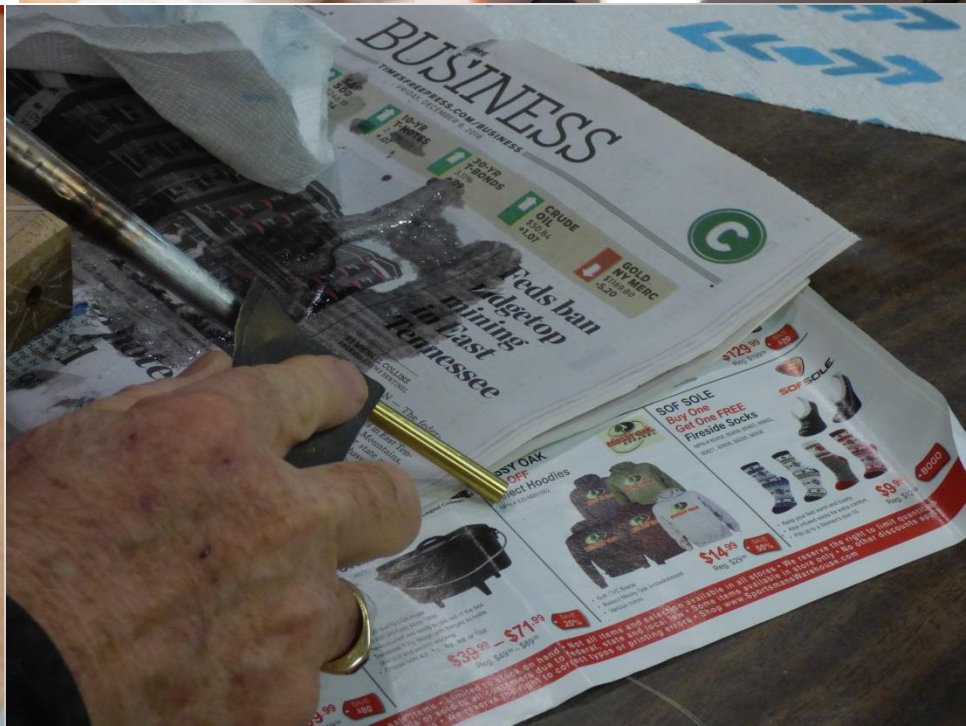
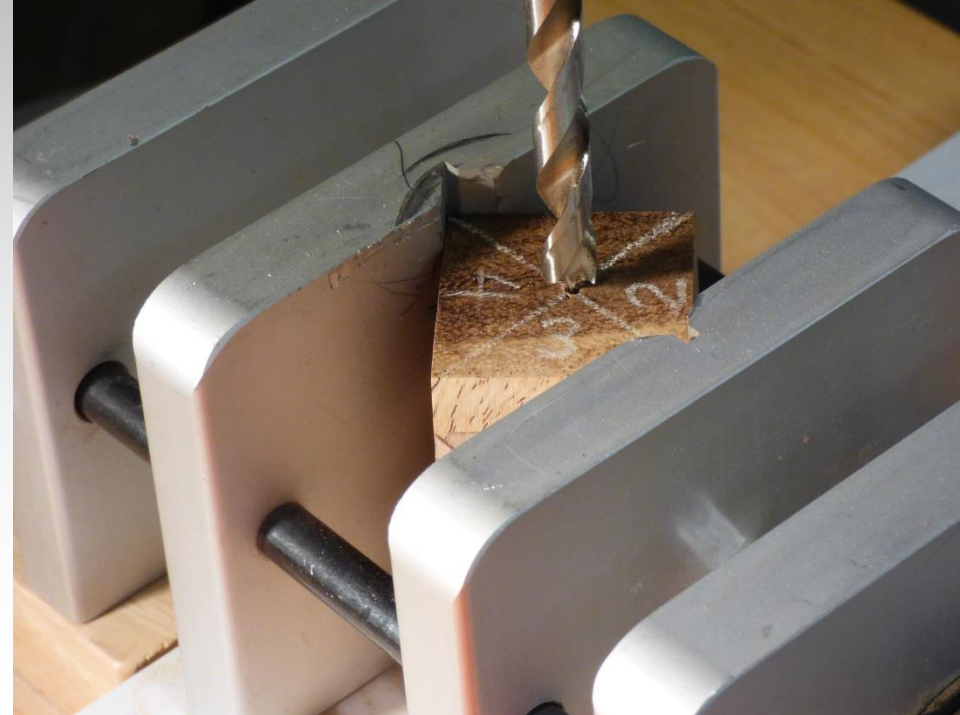
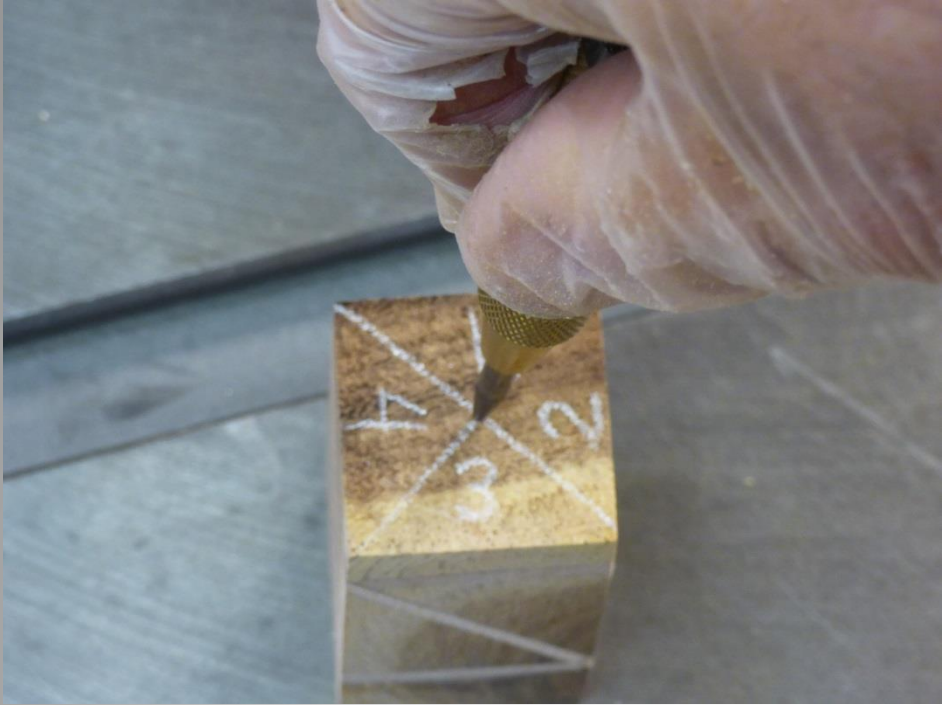


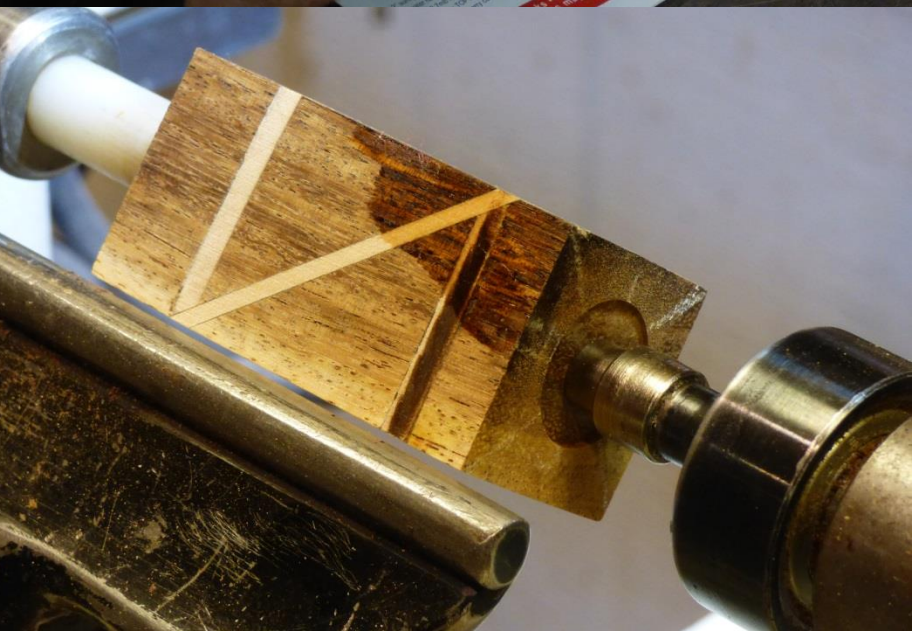










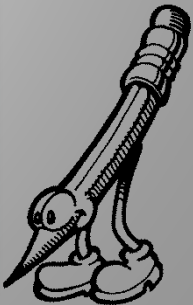


# 11 GOING BEYOND

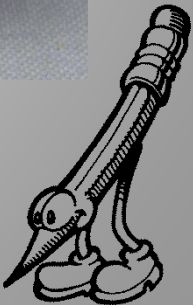
Celtic



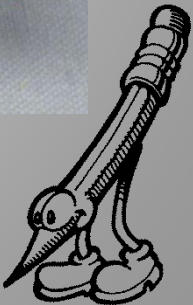
Knot



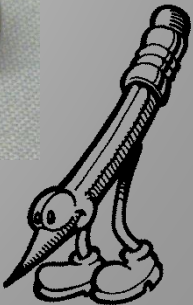
# 11 GOING BEYOND



# 11 GOING BEYOND



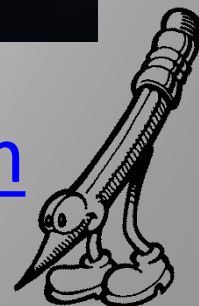
# 11 GOING BEYOND



IF INTERESTED YOU MAY  
PURCHASE THIS PEN FOR  
\$1295

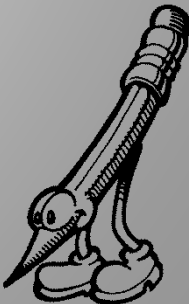


Chad Schimmel at [www.impeccablepen.com](http://www.impeccablepen.com)



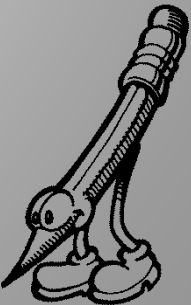
# 12 RESOURCES

- **Save your instructions**
- **Save notes on pen making**
- **Visit web sites of good pen turners**
- **Many good suppliers of pen kits**
- **Pen Makers Guild & International Association of Penturners (IPA)**
- **Books, DVDs, mentors available.**





ANY QUESTIONS  
REGARDING PENS?



**ENJOY TURNING A PEN**

**Bring some to share in the  
Instant Gallery**

