

Classic City Curl

The Newsletter of the
Classic City Wood Turners Club

February 2005

[Jim Underwood](#), Editor

February Meeting

The February Meeting will be held on the last Monday of February, the 28th, at Coleman Cabinets, 6:00 – 9:00 PM. That's next Monday. Yes, it's here already!

Our thanks go to Roger Jessup, who will give us a demonstration in turning bottle stoppers. Please find the directions to Coleman Cabinets at the end of the newsletter.

As Jim Talley's teaching gig is up, also note that we need to discuss the meeting date and location for the rest of the year. Coleman Cabinets is willing to host the meetings but the crew over at the Lyndon House would also like us to meet there. The limitation is that they will only be open Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Please come and give us your input.

Dues are due. They are \$25/person or \$30/couple. If you have not done so, please give them to Lou Kudon this next meeting.

We should also discuss the name of our club. Possible names are, Classic Turners, Classic City Turners, Classic Wood Turners, and Classic City Wood Turners.

Last Meeting



January's meeting was a great success! We had a very good turnout, with a lot of new faces; if I counted correctly, there were 16 of us at the meeting. Thanks to all who came and participated. Please come again this month. We had several show and tells, lots of good stuff in the drawing, and a pen turning demonstration by Jim Talley.

Jim showed us all the tools needed for setting up and turning the pen blanks, from the 7 mm drill and the barrel trimmer, to the pen mandrel. Then he demonstrated proper lathe technique and turning tools. He also showed us the parts of the pen and how it all went together at the end. As usual Jim gave us all an interesting demo with all kinds of hints and tips.

I'm still trying to figure out how a number 2 mortise holds a mandible on the spindle though. That's a *Number two Morse taper* and it's holding the *mandrel* for turning pens! Heh! I couldn't resist there Jim!

Excellent demonstration Jim, and thanks for sharing your knowledge on the subject. If any of you have a demonstration you would like to see or would like to give please contact Lou Kudon at the meeting.

Show and Tell*

I enjoyed seeing the work of some of our members. If you have something you would like to share please don't hesitate to bring it and tell us about it.



Bob Bitsko brought a burnished bowl turned from spalted wormy Box Elder. Bob said it was very pithy, which made it very difficult to turn. He burnished it using sandpaper backing. As you can see it has very nice form, and color typical of Box Elder.



Tim Kleven brought two nice bowls. One was a figured crotch cherry bowl finished with a poly-oil mix. Tim tells me he maxed out the 12-inch swing of his lathe. The other bowl is made from figured crotch and burl oak with a shellac sealer/wax finish.



Joe

Gilvey

also brought this very interesting natural edge wormy persimmon piece.



Jim Underwood brought his lighthouse of glued up cherry scraps turned on his 'dollar store' lathe. Yes, it *was* rather exciting, as the lathe started vibrating off the table, before the blank got roughed out, and the lathe was (literally) nailed down.

Sheldon Washington and Jim Talley also brought several examples of pens they had turned.

*Editors note: If the formatting of the previous section doesn't appear correctly in your email browser then I recommend we switch the newsletter to a PDF format. I had a difficult time trying to make this behave. This step will preserve the formatting and is a standard format for many applications. Adobe Acrobat is free and can be downloaded [here](#). If you have questions about this don't hesitate to email me.

Upcoming Shows

This is a short list of shows coming this year:

Southern States Symposium V April 29-May 1 Gainesville, GA

Featured turners: Stuart Batty, Lee Carter, Hayley Smith, Todd Hoyer and more

AAW National Symposium July 22-24 Overland Park, KS

Featured turners: (too numerous to mention)

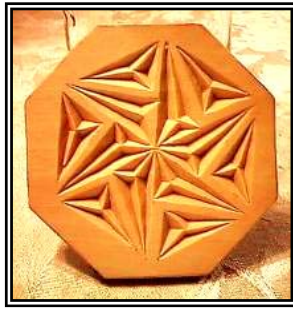
GAW Turning Southern Style XI September 16-18 Unicoi State Park, GA

Featured turners: Christian Burchard, Rex Burningham, and Don Duden

The Fifth Annual Southern States Symposium (see above) is one of the best turning events in the Southeast. This event features nationally and internationally known turners in a local forum. A total of 40 demonstrations, the trade show, and the Instant Gallery will fill the entire Georgia Mountains Conference Center. Those who have been before tell me that it is easily the best value, for the money, of any show around for \$100/person or \$125/couple. For more information go to www.southernstates.org or see Jim Talley for a brochure.

Chip Carving Workshop

Jim Talley's neighbor is an avid chip carver and she asked him to let his "woodworking friends" know about this event and send a special invitation to attend. This workshop will be held on a Thursday. There is no minimum class size so it will be held regardless. We just need to let Helen know in the next couple of weeks if we will attend so she can make arrangements for the facility.



Demonstrator: Barry McKenzie, internationally known for carving, designing, and instructing in chip carving
 Date: Apr. 7 all day
 Place: Athens, GA. (Location dependent on class size)
 Fee: \$55/person
 All materials furnished; no experience required; a hands-on class for all skill levels
 Contact: Helen Howington 706-549-2787
 You can see some of Barry's work and what he's about here: www.chipcarvingschool.com

Chips and Bits

Carlton McLendon Inc. Rare Woods and Veneers, 1130 Hemphill Ave NW, Atlanta, GA 30318, is a place you can get hard to find wood. <http://www.rarewoodsandveneers.com/pages/home.htm>

Directions to Coleman Cabinets

Directions to the shop are as follows:

From Athens, travel down 441/Watkinsville bypass. When you reach The Stone Store/Hog Mountain Road Traffic light, go to the NEXT light, and turn left. When you reach downtown Watkinsville go through to the 'Y' intersection, bear left down Hwy 15. Once you cross the railroad tracks, you will see the concrete pipe plant on the right. Just past the pipe plant on the right is Morrison Street. Turn right and about 1/4 mile or less you'll see the first paved road on the left. The road is marked by a big, concrete and stucco, sign with "Oconee Connection" lettered near the bottom. Turn left and drive down between the rows of Leyland Cypress until you see our building on the right. It will have a big green awning on it with Coleman Cabinets in white lettering on the front. The office will be closed so please come to the big bay doors on the left side of the shop for the meeting.

Atlanta Woodworking Show

--A Report by Lou Kudon

It had been a long hard month at work and I was looking forward to the Woodworking Show at Atlanta. I was so desperate for respite from the everyday rigors of life that I had decided to treat myself, and spend a whole weekend in Atlanta at the show. No worries about work, no household chores, just talking to turners, talking to woodworkers, and buying gadgets for three whole days! I drove up to Atlanta in my faithful F-150 and went straight to the Georgia Convention Center. Having previously purchased a ticket on the Internet I just bypassed lines and strolled right in.

Spending three days at a woodworking show requires some planning, so I first took a quick walk around the show to map out what was there and see what seminars were taking place. I decided to attend a talk by Steve Russell on green bowl turning and then picked out about one-third of the booths I would relegate myself to on the first day. I wanted to make sure there would be plenty to do on the next two days.

First I visited the Tormek booth. I own a Tormek but had several questions about usage and wanted to see a pro use it to see if I was missing anything in technique. I am quite satisfied with the edge quality I can put on my tools, but am a little perturbed at the length of time the Tormek requires during setup and sharpening. Although the Tormek demonstrator could expertly sharpen almost anything given him I did not see any techniques he used that differed substantially from mine.

I next visited several other booths that were primarily selling assortments of beautiful tools and I did some damage to my bank account. After a run back to my truck to dump my booty off, I sauntered over to the gallery. There are some extremely talented woodworkers in Atlanta, and of course, some great turners. I like seeing work like that, it puts my meager efforts in perspective and gives me something to try to emulate. After that it was late, so I hopped in my truck and drove the half-mile to my hotel.

It was cold and drizzling that evening. My wife called, and talked about some ice warning, but I really did not pay attention. I went to sleep tired, but excited about the possibility of talking to Nick Cook, and any other turners on the next day.

The first thing I did the next morning was to look out the hotel window. I-85 stretched out before me, white, treacherous, and barren of cars. My gaze then drifted to the hotel parking lot and the whiteness extended to the lot and over every car and object not protected by walls and a ceiling. I did not believe that it could be as bad as it looked so I decided to walk out to my truck. Actually, I slid out to my truck, since a thick layer of ice covered the lot. That ice extended up and over my truck. The door probably would not have opened, even if the ice had not completely covered the door handle, preventing me from even trying to open the door. The coat of ice on my truck ran from about 1/4 to 1/2 inch thick. It was clear and hard, and there was no chance of removing it. Besides that, freezing precipitation was still coming down. After I got back to my room I spent about 3 hours trying to get hold of the convention center. They do not have a phone line you can call to see if they are open so I kept calling individual offices until I got hold of a security guard who told me the show was open. I went back out to my truck but conditions had gotten worse and using better judgment I decided to spend the day at the hotel. The ice had disabled the lobby heating system so for comfort sake I was confined to my room. I had not gathered much literature from the show yet, so I spent my time reading a book, watching TV, and feeling glum. That evening I decided to try venturing out to get some food as the precipitation had stopped. I probably would have done that, if I had found a nearby restaurant that was open. Fortunately the hotel had moved dinner service to another part of their building, so I managed to get a decent meal anyway.

The next day I immediately went out to my truck and turned on the defroster and ran it for about an hour. Then after another half hour of chipping ice and cursing, I finally had a usable vehicle. Although ice was everywhere the roads were fairly clear. I carefully drove over to the convention center.

It was worth it. That morning I was among maybe 10 or so people at the show. I got to watch and talk extensively with several turners including Nick Cook and Howard Elrod. Every booth I went to, I had all to myself.

The weekend was not a waste. Although I had a painful Saturday I learned a lot about turning and woodworking and some great new (to me) turning techniques. I also learned to listen to my wife!
