

Classic City Curl

The Newsletter of the
Classic City Wood Turners Club

April 2005

[Jim Underwood](#), Editor

April Meeting

The April Meeting *was* held on the last Monday of April the 25th, at Coleman Cabinets, 6:00 – 9:00 PM. Sorry to have missed the deadline for this newsletter. I'm sending it out anyway... slightly edited!

There *was* a blank preparation demonstration at this meeting. "Log to lathe – what do you do now?" Jim Talley planned to (and did) show how to harvest the raw tree. So we saw an explanation of preparing blanks from green to finished. I'll write more about that in the May newsletter.

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

March Meeting

We had a good turnout for the March meeting. We had thirteen in attendance including a couple of newcomers. Thanks to all who came and please come again this month. Hopefully we'll see a couple of our regulars that we've missed the last couple of meetings.

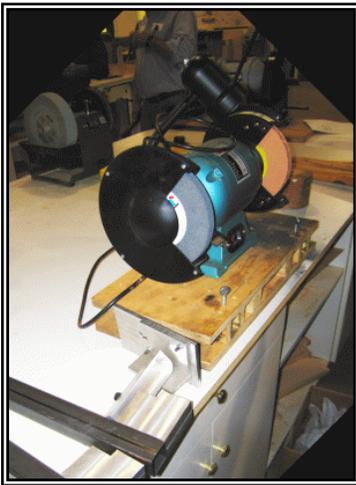


Our demonstration last month was a good one. Jim Talley brought his One Way Wolverine Sharpening system, and gave us some basic pointers on sharpening. The Wolverine system consists of a Delta Grinder with a couple

of bases and V arms to place your tool handle on while sharpening. Essentially the jig ensures an even grind across the surface of a tool so that as the tool is rotated during a cut you have a consistent edge in contact with the wood. It is possible to do this by hand but it takes a steady hand and a lot of practice. Jims says his setup probably cost him about \$250. He has a gray 60-80 grit stone on one side and a white 120 grit stone on the other side. I think he says that it runs about 1725 RPM. He usually roughs out his roughing gouges on the rough side and finishes off his other tools on the 120 grit stone. He says he does not hone his tools except for his skew and for that he uses a faceplate mounted 600 grit sanding pad. For dressing his stones he uses a diamond tool (\$30-\$35 a show) and says his star wheel dressing tool just takes too much off. So he uses it for texturing wood instead. I found that to be hilarious!



Lou Kudon also brought his Tormek system and explained a bit about how it worked. This system has a white 220 stone and a 8 ¾ leather strop. It looks like the profiled leather honing wheel is on the outboard side of the leather strop also. This setup runs slow and cuts slow. 72 RPM is what Lou says it runs. You must also fill it with water. The idea is that you'll never burn up a tool at the slow RPM with a water bath. This system costs about \$400-\$600 depending on the attachments. This is a high quality system that will give a consistently sharp edge.



Alan Treadwell also brought his grinder and his jigs that he designed and machined himself. It was rather impressive for a homemade setup. I think his setup probably runs about 1725 RPM as well. Alan had on orange 100 grit stone on one side of his grinder and 80 grit on the other.

He uses a material called "Norbide" to dress his stones. Evidently it's less expensive than diamond.

One pointer that Jim gave us was that high speed steel didn't have a problem with losing its edge if it turned blue nearly as much as high carbon steel did. You **MUST** keep high carbon steel tools cool while grinding or they will not hold their temper or their edge.

There doesn't seem to be much of a consensus on sharpening angles other than making it quick and easy. Basically you want to spend your time turning, so you find what sharpening method works for you and stick with that. "Oh...somewhere in the neighborhood of 45 degrees..." I'm afraid I wanted a bit more to go on, so I've done a bit of research and I'll put it down here. We neophytes have to start *somewhere!*

I consulted several books but the one that had the clearest information was Patrick Spielman's book "The Art of the Lathe. We have this book in our newly formed "Library" if you care to check it out. On page nine there is a concise diagram showing sharpening angles for five tools. The angles in degrees are as follows; spindle gouge 30, skew 40, with edge 15-30 from lathe center line, round nose scraper 40, spearpoint 30, with nose angle of 60-90, and a diamond section parting tool at 50. These got me going and my tools sure do work a lot better sharp! The bowl gouge is a bit different and is a very forgiving tool as I found out when I visited Alan Treadwell's shop. It seems that most people sharpen the bowl gouge around a 45 degree angle.

Other books I consulted were:

"Woodturning for Cabinetmakers" by Michael Dunbar

"Basic Woodturning Techniques" by David Regester

These two and Patrick Spielman's book can be checked out at the Athens Regional Library.

I hear some of us haven't been getting the newsletter since I didn't have the correct email address. I'll try to remedy that! I also hear some of you had a bit of trouble downloading the last monster newsletter on your dial up account. Sorry about that! I'll try to put this thing on a diet!

We have started a library. If you have issues of turning magazines or books you'd like to donate, please bring them and share. With the advent of a library we also need a librarian. Dr. Bob Nix has consented to be temporary librarian and Coleman Cabinets is storing them so far. Please consider doing this as a help to the club.

Raffled off in the March meeting was a some pieces of Birch 'sinkers', a large piece of natural edge Black Cherry, a couple of big chunks of Bay tree, some rose wood, and some green pecan bowl blanks. Alan Treadwell also donated a very nice aluminum faceplate he had made on a CNC machine. He will also has several more for sale for \$30 dollars each to members. He may make these custom faceplates for members. Thanks Alan! Please bring your raffle items next meeting. These are what will fund our demonstrations in the near future. We're hoping to bring some 'name brand' turners in at some point. We would at least like to pay for a meal and gas money for some out of town turners.

If you have some demonstrations you'd like to see please don't hesitate to email me and I'll forward these ideas to Jim Talley or Lou Kudon.

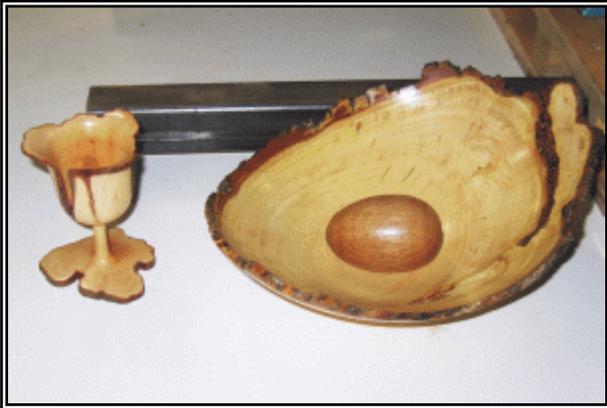
Turners Showcase

Once again I've enjoyed seeing what our members have been up to.



Lou Kudon brought some Mont Blanc, or more properly, European style, pens he made. Materials are; Bubinga, Mesquite, Oak, Walnut, and Pink Ivory from Craft Supply. The going price at shows is about \$45 for Mont Blanc pens and \$35 for straight (Parker style) or American style pens.

As a side note Mont Blanc and Parker do not manufacture the mechanisms for these pens. I'm assuming that the habit of naming these pens by these manufacturers is a bit like calling all transparent tape "Scotch Tape", or all bandages by the Johnson and Johnson name "Band-Aids," hence my comments about European or American style pens.



Michael Hollis brought us some more interesting pieces he has made. Here is a flawless natural edge Hawthorne goblet with a lacquer finish, an Ash/yew? natural edge bowl with a spray lacquer finish, and a White Oak egg. Nice work Michael!



Jim Talley brought this pecan goblet he made that he made a mistake on, but dug it out later and finished it by accenting the mistakes. The off center stem and separate rings look great! Jim encourages us to bring our mistakes as well. There are whole classes taught on how to fix, recover from, or accent mistakes. His teacher once said "If you can't fix or cover up your mistake then show it off by accenting it!"



He turned this extremely hard African Blackwood box. You cannot see it in the photo but there are some chatter patterns inside the lid. There are 6 coats of lacquer brushed and then sprayed on.



He also brought this pecan plate with texturing induced by... yes! the star wheel stone dresser mentioned above!

Again thanks to all who shared their creativity and projects with us.

Photographs courtesy of Sheldon Washington

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

Coming up this weekend, 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.

AAW Membership

I strongly encourage our members to join the [American Association of Woodturners](http://www.aaw.org). They publish the American Woodturner journal four times per year. AAW has an Annual Symposium featuring many renowned turners. Educational Opportunity Grants are also awarded to assist members in their education and teaching. Local chapters may also receive grants for demonstrations. AAW also publishes other resources as well. A membership also protects our members in case of accidents as this association carries insurance on members. It's only \$35 per year for individual membership.

Jim Talley and I are looking into CCWT becoming a Charter Club of AAW. This move will insure our officers but not members. I still encourage you to become a member as outlined above.

Classified Ads

For Sale:

- Kellogg 2 Hp 2 Stage Compressor (rebuilt) - \$400
- Milwaukee/Delta 14" Radial Arm Saw - \$400
- Delta Lathe Duplicator - \$75
- Kreg Manual Pocket Hole Jigs - \$75
- Leigh 24" Mortise and Tenon Attachment for Leigh 24" Dovetail Jig - \$75
- Leigh 15" Dovetail Jigs - \$50
- 2 Chain Saws - \$30 ea
- 2 Gas Water Heaters - \$20 ea
- Makita 12V Battery Charger - \$15
- Sawblades 10 in carbide tip - \$10
- Assorted Clamps

Call Bob Bitsko
Ph 706-769-7520

- 30 x 40 desk made 5/24/74 \$50
- 46-700 Delta Lathe \$300
- 1939 Atlas lathe for conversion to wood lathe \$100
- Craftsman table saw \$100
- 1940 Leblond lathe I took apart to move it! Big and heavy \$500
- Faceplates made by myself \$40. each (\$30 -\$35 for members)
- Vise for milling machine \$50
- Many tools and accessories

- Computer and printer used three months for school course \$600
- Much more

Need the space Sell or trade. Call Alan Treadwell at 678-234-0367 alantreadwell@alltel.net

Wanted:

- Inexpensive Band Saw for light use; must have rip fence.

Please Call Jay at 769-5036

Miscellaneous:

- Magnolia tree down, still some left, call Jim Talley - 706-353-7675
- For those of you who are looking to buy or sell things, the AAW has these [classified ads](#).
- Bob Bitsko mentioned that Peachstate Lumber has Birch turning blanks, some Cocobolo squares for about \$35.00, and some Clara Walnut veneer cores.

You can also purchase exotic woods from:

- [Atlanta Wood Products](#)
 - [Carlton McLendon Inc.](#)
 - [Peachstate Lumber](#)
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Newsletter copy

If you have ideas of articles you'd like to see in the newsletter, or would like to submit an article please email [Jim Underwood](#). I would like reports of schools or shows you attend, reviews of tools you own or make, demonstrations you'd like to see or any other ideas you might have.

I definitely expect to see a report on the Southern States Symposium. That's tomorrow, so have fun guys!

If you would like to unsubscribe from this newsletter please [email](#) me.
