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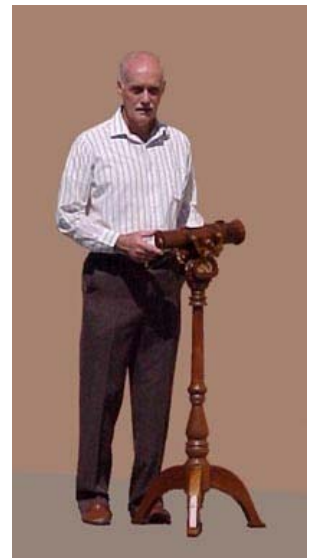
**MAY
2007**

May Meeting

The May meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 29th, rather than the last Monday of the month because of the conflict with the Memorial Day holiday. The meeting as usual will be at Coleman Cabinets, from 6:00 – 9:00 PM. Directions to Coleman Cabinets are available at www.classiccitywoodturners.com/meeting.html on the club website.

Our featured demonstrator will be Jim Duxbury who was originally scheduled for our April meeting. Jim is a member of both the Woodturning Guild of North Carolina and the Piedmont Triad Woodturners. He will demonstrate the turning of centerless pieces and apply this technique to the construction of his Intermediate Kaleidoscopes. This technique is adaptable also for hollow vessels such as birdhouses, ornaments, or any staved-type cylindrical pieces. He will display a number of variations of Kaleidoscopes, cutting of glass mirror, and turning PVC and Plexiglas for object boxes.

Jim has won numerous awards and ribbons with his original kaleidoscope designs and has sold many of the models throughout the country. A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Jim now resides in Graham, NC where the sun shines down on his little shop almost every day. Creativity abounds. Although Jim has claimed to be retired since 1996, the abundance of dust from woodturning evolved into the invention of the Resp-O-Rator™ of which he holds two U.S. Patents and has a third Patent Pending. He and his wife operate DUXTERITY LLC for the manufacture and marketing of both the Resp-O-Rator™ and his gallery quality wooden objects. Jim has woodturnings at the Alamance Art Center, NC Museum of Science, and galleries in North Carolina and Ohio. You can visit his website and check out both Elegant Creations and the Resp-O-Rator™ at www.duxterity.com/ec. Plans and custom made kaleidoscopes can be ordered from this website or plans will be available at the meeting.



As usual, club members are invited to gather at the Catcus Café in the Oconee Plaza Shopping Center on Hog Mountain Road at 5 PM prior to the meeting for dinner and to meet our demonstrator.

April Meeting

Minutes from the business portion of the April meeting are as follows:

A total of 40 attendees were present of which two were visitors. Total club membership now stands at 50 persons.

The availability of a class in marquetry was announced. The class is to be taught by the renowned craftsman Paul Schurch of Santa Barbara, California, and is scheduled for May 29 through June 2 at the Little Gum Creek Workshop. Persons interested in attending are to contact Don Russell at dvr-par@email.msn.com or (770) 784-1883.

President Kudon announced that two club sponsored scholarships to defray the registration cost for attending the GAW Unicoi Symposium, Sept. 14-16, would be raffled off at the May meeting. The price for these raffle tickets will be \$10. The value of these scholarships is \$160 each.

Members were encouraged to attend the first annual club barbecue and picnic on May 5th was encouraged. (This event was subsequently cancelled because of inclement weather.)

A change in the next meeting date to Tuesday, May 29th, was announced to avoid a conflict with the Memorial Day holiday.

The club Treasurer reported a balance of approximately \$2270 in the treasury.

Submitted by Walter McRae

President's Turn

I got the new Craft Supply woodturning catalog today. Holding it in my hands, I was amazed at how thick it was and how many items are available for a simple hobby like woodturning. Of course woodturning is far from simple. One walk through most instant galleries at any woodturning symposium will amaze and delight almost any viewer. Some of you will be lucky enough to go to the national meeting in Portland. I am sure the turning gallery will challenge your ideas about woodturning as surely as the gallery at last years meeting in Louisville did. Woodturning's magic is more than just a product of an elegant interface to the sculpting of wood. It has been adopted worldwide and the international interest has added more diversity to the art.

During the Gainesville symposium and subsequently at the CCWT meeting and Peachstate meeting, I was fortunate enough to get to know Bruce Bell. Bruce is not only a gifted woodturner but a truly funny, upfront and congenial person. In discussing turning and life, it was evident there was as much in common as there were surprising differences. Differing timbers allowed for different techniques and finishes and different cultures resulted in divergence in attitudes and approaches. Still we became friends and that is perhaps the true magic of turning.

The first, annual President's BBQ is rescheduled for June 16 (Location to be announced later). Remember, the purpose of this gathering is social and gustatory, so there will be no woodturning demos, tours or galleries. Bring your spouse or significant other and have a great time. It starts at 5:00 PM, I will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, buns and soft drinks. Please sign up again at the next meeting and indicate how many will attend and if you can bring a covered dish.

Our June meeting will be another special event. At this meeting we will have the opportunity to learn about artistic principles and watch professionals critique woodturnings. Private critiques of your own woodturnings will also be available, so bring some work if you are interested.

In August we are planning to have our club's turning day. This year we hope to have Dick Sing to present. Dick Sing is not only an author and one of the finest turners in the country, he is an exceptional teacher. Many details have still to be worked out to make this possible. We hope to have all the details soon. This could be the best turning day we ever had.

So until next month: Hey, Mate: turn, turn, turn.

By Lou Kudon

Editors Skew

As I am languishing after an encounter with a freshly sharpened chisel to the thumb and subsequent stitches, I reflect that some safety reminders would not go amiss. Lou Kudon has suggested that we have a safety tip of the month during our meetings. I'm looking forward to that Lou. If you have a safety tip or reminder to share, please email Lou or myself, or bring it up at the meeting.

I attended my first Southern States Symposium this year compliments of our V.P. who had registered but was unable to go. Actually it was my first turning symposium *ever*. Thank you Michael Hollis! (Hmmm.... have you registered for the National Symposium yet Michael?) It was a memorable and worthwhile event despite the demonstrators having to adjust volumes' and accommodate one another from open walled "rooms". I watched John Jordan work his magic on hollow forms, and enjoyed his embellishments and displayed works. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting and watching Mike Mahoney, who is a gentleman at all times, and an accomplished turner. Mike makes that hand threading look so very easy! I also met some fellows I "know" from Woodturners Resources forum and enjoyed getting to know them a bit more. I had a great time gawking at all the entries in the instant gallery and taking pictures. And those of you who know what a cheapskate I am will be shocked to learn that I even spent a little money on tools this time out!

In this issue we have trimmed information from the newsletter due to the fact that we now are able to host that info on the club's brand new website! Those sections which will now be posted on the website and not in the printed newsletter are *AAW Chapter News, Instructors, Schools, Upcoming Shows and Other Events, Club Officers, and Directions to Coleman Cabinets*. Look for them at <http://www.classiccitywoodturners.com/> Walter McRae has spent a great deal of time researching websites and software in order to get this up and running. Be sure to tell him how much you appreciate it, because he's really done a bang-up job on this! We intend to keep it updated, so that you will be able to find information such as meeting dates and upcoming events on the website with no trouble. Browse around our new website – you'll be glad you did!

Although our readers have complimented the newsletter countless times, I must confess that I am disappointed that we did not receive even an honorable mention in the AAW chapter newsletter contest. There must have been some stiff competition out there! I am still proud of our newsletter, but I'm glad to see that others are promoting woodturning, and serving their club in this manner. Be sure to check out the winners at http://www.woodturner.org/community/chapters/chapter_contests_2007.htm

The **Turning Tip of the Month** was given to us by member Frank Lether. Thanks Frank!

“I have experimented with several pens for signing my woodturning pieces. Of these my favorite, is the ITOYA Finepoint System, permanent black ink, precision pen, with a 0.1 mm tip. The manufacturer claims these pens will write on film, plastic, glass, metal, wood, cellophane and ceramic.

I bought mine for \$1.99 at the local Hobby Lobby craft store - on the Atlanta Highway in Athens. Here is a URL for ITOYA's web page so you can see what the pens look like:

http://www.itoya.com/Catalogs/Itoya_Pen/Itoya_Pen_html/Finepoint.htm I have had good luck with the following approach: before signing the piece, in order to get a crisp signature and avoid the possibility of the pen bleeding into the wood grain and smearing, I usually first apply a sanding sealer (Zinsser's Bulls Eye SealCoat), followed by a finish coat of Bartley' s Gel. This way I get a nice smooth surface for the pen to write on and I don't smear the signature when I sign the piece.

Best of luck and happy turning.

Frank”

By Jim Underwood

Library Scroll

We have two new additions to our library this month, a book on building outdoor furniture which is quite timely, and a DVD by Bruce Bell of Australia, “Turning Hollow Forms by Reverse Chucking.” These will be available for circulation at our next meeting. Our thanks to Walter McRae for the excellent job he is doing in making the DVD’s of our demonstrators available in such a timely manner.

A complete list of our holdings is available at www.classicitywoodturners.com/Library.html on the club website.

We had several items that were not returned at our last meeting, some of which were requested for checkout. Please remember that there is a \$2 charge for each item not returned, which is not much but it might help us build our library by adding some good books members are already requesting. The librarian requests that correct change be brought to the meeting for the small fines, as there is no “petty cash” from which to draw.

Suggestion of the month: Last month we closed with the suggestion to “Think thirds.” For this month, the challenge is to check out a journal or two and analyze pictures for thirds. You will most often find the accent of a piece in the bottom third or the top third, rather than in the middle. Also the foot will be no larger than a third of the widest part of the piece. There are exceptions; search for some.

By Roy Grant

Turning Talk

This month’s article was brought to our attention by fellow club member Steve Johnson. It was written by Jeff Jackson and published in the March 29, 2007, edition of the Oglethorpe Echo newspaper. The article provides some local color and history on the Osage Orange tree whose wood many of us turn. We hope that you will find it as interesting as we did. Jeff has published numerous articles and bulletins in an array of magazines and journals. He has been a nature center director, a professor of wildlife management at the University of Georgia, and an extension wildlife specialist in Georgia. He currently resides in Oglethorpe County.

Best Bow Wood in the Country

By Jeff Jackson

The next time you visit the Scull Shoals historic site in the southern part of the county look for a few specimens of “bodark.” This is an interesting tree imported by the early residents of the Scull Shoals community. As you walk from the parking area to the river there is one on the right side of the cleared area at the edge of the woods. There are a couple more ahead growing near the Oconee River. These are very large specimens for their kind. Normally it is a small tree.

The name bodark is one of many for this tree. It is derived from “bois d’arc” the name French explorers gave it. It means “bow wood” in French. Osage Orange is the most common name. It was native on Osage Indian lands in west Arkansas, East Texas, and South Oklahoma. Once it was a very valuable tree because of its extreme hardness, durability, low shrinkage, flexibility, and resistance to weathering and rot. Farmers made tool handles, wagon wheels, and other items of the wood. The live trees are thorny and were planted in dense rows to make living fences to confine livestock. After the invention of barbed wire Osage Orange was used for fence posts. Indians traded bows of Osage Orange over long distances. The value of such a bow was a horse and a blanket.

Today enthusiasts of traditional bow hunting put a high value on Osage Orange wood. It is still considered the best bow wood in North America, perhaps in the world. You can buy staves split from Osage Orange stems suitable for making a bow on Ebay. Some prices for a good piece are as high as a new manufactured bow. To get advice on how to make a bow read “The American Bowyers Bible.”

Once I had the idea of growing my own Osage orange trees. I planned to make a bow from one of those trees and kill a deer with it. I gathered the “oranges” from under the trees at Scull Shoals. The trees are doing fine and one has already been made into a child’s bow for my nephew. The stems of these trees will soon be big enough to make a powerful hunting bow.

I have continued to collect the seeds and start more seedlings but now I have more than enough. I have a bucket of seedlings to give away-- if you want some give me a call at 706 543-2656. To grow your own go to Scull Shoals in the fall when the “oranges” have fallen and look under the trees. Each one contains a few hundred seeds. Put the thing outdoors in a place safe from mice and squirrels. Let it rot. By spring the orange will have turned to mush. Add water and stir. Strain to separate the seeds, plant in pots and transplant in the winter. Let the trees grow to their natural crooked shape for a few years. Then cut them off at the base to grow nice straight sprouts that will mature into stems suitable for making a bow.

Further to this note on trees of interest one of my readers in the Stephens community called and asked me to pass on his interest in finding and duplicating old apple trees growing in the county. Unfortunately I have lost the note with your name and address -- so if you read this give me another call.

April Demonstration

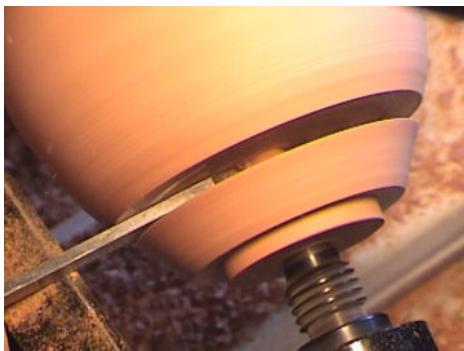
Our April demonstrator was Bruce Bell, one of the foremost woodturners in Australia. Bruce was a featured demonstrator at the recent Turning Southern Style VII Symposium in Gainesville and his travel schedule fortunately permitted him to participate in our meeting. We are also grateful that Jim Duxbury, who was originally scheduled to demonstrate at the April meeting, agreed to reschedule his travel to May.

Bruce Bell began turning in 1973. He often refers to timber as "Nature's Hidden Secrets." He strives to produce simple eye appealing forms from Australian native timbers, using only the best that nature has to offer. He says "The challenge for woodturning is not unlike working with precious gems: the beauty is within the tree, and it is a challenge to be able to show it off to its best advantage".



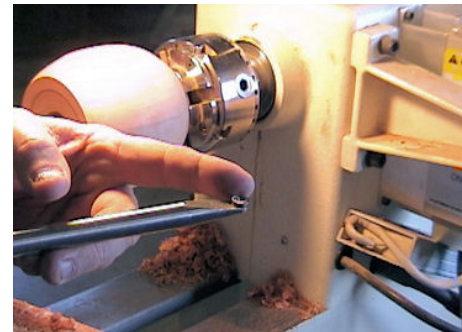
Bruce chose to demonstrate two different turning techniques at our meeting. The first was his method for turning a hollow form through reverse chucking and the second was illustrating how to turn a winged hollow form.

At the onset he emphasized that from his perspective the wall thickness for a hollow form vessel was not a significant consideration because this property can never be observed. He produces thin walled vessels only as a means of reducing the weight of the finished object when turned from very dense wood.



When turning a standard hollow vessel for which the opening on the top will be a half inch diameter hole, he first turns the initial block of wood between centers to the desired approximate exterior shape. In the process he turns tenons on both ends of the block for use in later chucking. He uses a skew chisel as a scraper for this purpose. He then parts off from the end chosen for the base a section about one inch in thickness. He noted that a parting tool can be made to much more cleanly cut end grain if the cutting edge is ground slightly concave by touching the center of this edge against the corner of the grinding wheel as the final sharpening step.

Next he mounts the tenon of the top portion in the chuck and drills a one and a half inch hole in the bottom to a depth just below where the neck of the vessel will begin. He then hollows the block through this hole by using a straight shank scraper with a replaceable tungsten carbide cutting wheel on the end. He stressed the importance of holding the tool so that the cutting wheel was at about 45 degrees to the wood surface being cut and shank was parallel to the axis of rotation. It is important when hollowing to regularly clean the waste wood from the interior of the vessel to prevent this debris from fouling the cutting edge of the scraper.



When the hollowing is completed, he turns a recess mortise in the hole in the bottom with a skew and smooths the bottom face outward from this recess so it is slightly concave inward. These actions will permit him to tightly glue the base section, which he had parted off earlier, onto the bottom of the vessel after an appropriate size tenon has been turned on this piece. He glues the base onto the hollowed shell using CA glue and accelerator and the tail stock live center to apply clamping pressure. This completes the reverse chucking process.



The next step is to drill a ½ inch hole in the top of the block. This process will indicate how much solid wood remains at the top as well as providing a point of reference for final shaping of the top. With the hole drilled he uses a cone center to hold the piece firmly in the tail stock. As a final step he turns the outside surface to the desired shape using a gouge and then the skew as a scraper for smoothing. He states that he prefers simpler, free flowing shapes that accentuate the color and grain of the wood rather than turnings with “many lumps, bumps and crannies”. He does suggest using a texturing tool to mask cracks or blemishes that may occur in the surface. He sands the surface smooth using a power sander and then parts the vessel from the

chucked base to finish the project.

To turn a winged hollow form he begins with a log about 4 inches in diameter that has been sawed lengthwise on a band saw. He chooses the length to meet the swing capacity of the lathe. On the bark side he drills a hole just large enough to accommodate a chuck with spigot or step jaws. This side of the log will ultimately be the top of the winged hollow form and the flat side the base. With the piece securely mounted in the spigot jaws he begins by turning the base into an “S” shape profile. The outer curve of the shape will be the feet on which the bowl ultimately rests. The inner curve forms a hemispherical central base that mates with the hollow vessel to be turned on the top side. He turns a tenon on this



base which will be used to hold the piece when it is reversed for turning the upper surface of the bowl. When turning this shape it is very important to roll the gouge to almost a vertical position when approaching a change in curvature to prevent the lower cutting edge from catching.

When he is satisfied with the shape of the base he reverses the piece and turns the top side. He uses a gouge for this purpose and is very careful to follow the bevel. He rough turns the top shape to conform to the base profile. The central bowl portion is

turned to blend smoothly with the rounded base below. When the desired shape and wing thickness has been achieved, he drills the hole in the center, used initially to hold the spigot jaws, deeper into the base to the depth desired for the resultant hollow vessel. He then hollows the central portion with the same straight shank hollowing tool that he used in the first demonstration. The final step in this turning is to reverse mount the piece once again to finish the base using the spigot jaws in hollow center. The resulting bowl rests on its wings when placed on a flat surface.



Members Gallery

Here are a few pictures from our last Show and Tell exhibition which you might enjoy. The contributions of members to this regular meeting activity are very much appreciated. It provides an excellent means to illustrate and share their turning interests with others.



A very nice bowl turned from mesquite by Jim Underwood



An attractive walnut candle holder embellished with inlays turned by Frank Lether



A classic maple bowl turned by Frank Lether and finished using Pearl Ex gold pigment



A beautiful vase turned from a redwood cone by Roy Grant



A stylish lidded box turned from ambrosia maple by Michael Hollis with inlaid jasper stone and black painted base and finial



A distinctive cherry bowl turned by Bob Nix



An attractive black gum natural edge bowl turned by Michael Hollis



A uniquely shaped bowl turned by Steve Johnson from spalted red maple



A remarkable marine sculpture with turned walnut base created by Ken Calkin



An interesting natural edge bowl turned by Steve Doster from big leaf maple

Pictures courtesy of Jim Underwood

Future Meeting/Demonstration schedule

Club meetings are held on the last Monday of the month. Changes in schedule will be announced.

The schedule of demonstrations for the past several meetings and coming months is as follows:

- January 07**..... Frank Bowers, bowl turning techniques and skills
- February 07**..... Jim Talley, Pen Turning
- March 07**..... Exploring Finishing Methods
- April 07**..... Bruce Bell, Turning Hollow Forms
- May 07**..... Jim Duxbury, Kaleidoscope Turning
- June 07**..... Principles of Critiquing
- July 07**..... Gary Gardner, TBD

Classified Ads

For Sale:

Plywood Mini-Lathe Stands



Available in various heights. Will fit Jet Mini and Delta Midi lathes. \$60 assembled. \$20 of proceeds donated to Classic City Woodturners. Call Jim at 706-296-9620 or email at: jimunder@colemancabinets.com

Lathe for Sale

Dunlop Lathe, 1/4 horsepower motor, 8" swing, 38" ways, wooden stand. It is about 50 years old and in relatively good condition. (Most of the paint is still on it.) \$90 OBO. Interested call Abraham at (706) 543-4332 or email at atesser@uga.edu



AAW Classifieds: <http://www.woodturner.org/vbforum/forumdisplay.php?f=3>

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 at jimunder@colemancabinets.com 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 would be appreciated..

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