



# *North Carolina* **WOODTURNER**

**Journal of the North Carolina Woodturners Association**  
*A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners*

Volume 14, Number 7

July 2004



by J.D. Reinhardt

**THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
By Ron Mechling

AAW board of Directors member, Steve Ainsworth did a great job in his demonstration last month and provided many tips along with the metal turning. Steve lives in the Raleigh area and is a relatively new turner who is inspiring to the new turners we have in our club.

Our club is working with a number of other clubs in the state to discuss the possibility of a large woodturning demonstration and competition during the Klingspor Extravaganza at the

Hickory Convention Center in October. If you are willing to be involved in this event as a leader or worker, please contact me or another board member.

Graeme Priddle, our demo guest in July, will also be available for great learning experiences at the Icehouse in Davidson, N.C. Call 704-892-7323 or try [www.icehousecenter.org](http://www.icehousecenter.org) for more information. Also you can get a preview of Graeme's work at [www.graemepiddle.co.nz](http://www.graemepiddle.co.nz).

The Woodturners Catalog has a 15% off special on Artisan Sanding pads, gold and wave discs, just mention our

special code when you order ... 04STAAW7.

We will not have a chapter collaborative this year for the AAW Symposium, however we do encourage you to attend this event in Orlando, Florida, July 23-25 at the Caribe Royale. Check the AAW web site for details.

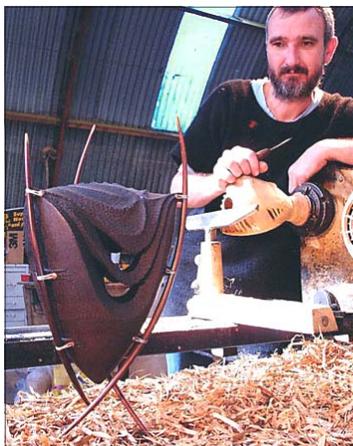
We will plan to have a Board Member Meeting during lunch, so bring your own lunch. See you at 10:00 on Saturday, July 10.

Keep on turning, Ron

**PROGRAM NOTES**  
By Ric Erkes

Have you looked at Graeme Priddle's web site? Before I say anything, go to [www.graemepiddle.co.nz](http://www.graemepiddle.co.nz). Good. Now I don't have to say anything but, July 10th starts at 10:00.

Oh... forgot about Edgar. So just for him, and maybe a few others, I'll write a little intro. I feel fortunate Graeme was available for a demo while on his way to instruct at Arrowmont. He is a World Class turner, (which is somewhere above a Master Turner,



which is above 'Pretty Good'). He is the only turner I know that has one of his pieces on a postage stamp. Try getting one of your pieces on a New Zealand postage stamp, it's not easy.

If you remember Chris Stott's comment about copying someone's work, well Graeme's pieces provide a lot of material for 'research'. You can easily see how he has been influenced by nature and more specifically by sea forms. Graeme will take us through the whole process of wood selection, hollowing and carving, along with his philosophy of design.

We don't get many opportunities to bring a turner of his caliber to North Carolina in the middle of the summer, so once again reserve the second Sat of the month for a little inspiration. Rumor has it that down under, a lathe spins in the opposite direction.

I have a little more space, so I am going to make another blatant plug for my replacement. If you would like to delve a little further into the world of woodturning, this job is a great place to start. Through this position I have been afforded the opportunity to spend

hours picking the brains of Phil Brennon, Chris Ramsey, Tom Crabb, Chris Stott and now Graeme Priddle to name just a few of some really talented turners who have come through here. I've had great conversations with some other well known turners who were not able to come. People I would never have talked to without the pretext of Program Coordinator. The job does take a few hours a month, but whatever your hesitation is, think of all the perks. Well, maybe that is a little much, but I know the job has had a greater influence on my turning. Talk to me while I still have a few ideas for next year and we'll see you on the 10th.

**Coming Events**

- 14 Aug. Frank Penta - platters...or something new...
- 11 Sep. Bart Castlebury - Turkey Calls 1-4
- 9 Oct. Don Geiger - Mastering the Side Ground Bowl Gouge 10-4 ([www.dongeiger.com](http://www.dongeiger.com))
- 13 Nov. Dwight Hartsell - Surface Treatments 1-4
- December - Holiday Festival

**Next Meeting: July 10th at 10:00 am**

**Demonstrator: Graeme Priddle**

**Demonstration: wood selection, hollowing and carving**



**Meet at Klingspor's in Hickory, 856  
21st Street Dr. SE (828-326-9663)**

**Member News**

by Mary Bachand

A message from the Den Mother!!!

We meet on the second Saturday of each month for an educational lesson, renewing friendships, some "low-cal" goodies, and maybe a little luck in the raffle. Then-pooof-practically everyone disappears leaving behind all of our equipment to be returned to our rent-free storage space, a pile of wood shavings, and empty drink and coffee containers everywhere.

Folks-this is YOUR club-not just the 5 or 6 who faithfully stay month after month to clean up. I truly felt like blocking the door as the mass exodus began after our June meeting. If some of you would help, the "faithful few" could leave 20 or 30 minutes earlier.

Approximately 20 of you have never picked up your 2004 membership directory and membership card. Also, there were a pile of June directory additions left on the table. Your dues help pay for these.

Please welcome new members Tom Olson of Boone and Ray Thompson of Candler. Guys, I hope that my above tirade doesn't scare you off. I just have to have a little fit now and then to keep everyone hopping.

I am happy to announce that Sam McDowell has volunteered to make a second box for our name tags. Isn't it great that we need an extra box?

**Library News** - by Mary Bachand

Jack Freeman is doing a wonderful job of getting everything professionally organized. When he gets through, we won't have a computerized card catalog but a nice alphabetical spread sheet of our video and book inventory.

I'm getting another copy of "Son of Skew" as the one we just got has "laryngitis", and just ordered the video "Turnaround" by Jimmy Clewes.

**2004 Challenge Projects**

July - Spheres.

August - Captive Rings.

September - Collaborative.

October - Light Weight.

November - Boxes.

December - Snowmen.

Challenge winners will receive a gift certificate, and have a photo of their piece printed on the color pages of the newsletter.

**Newsletter Articles****Wanted!!!**

Have you taken a recent woodturning class at one of the woodturning schools or with another turner? Send in your tips and how-to articles, book reviews and video reviews, tool reviews and tool modifications, jigs, gadgets, and gizmos!! Let's try to make this a regular monthly feature for the newsletter - from our members, for our members!! Remember, this is your newsletter too, so don't be bashful - get your articles in. Email your articles and pictures to [johnuteck@carolina.rr.com](mailto:johnuteck@carolina.rr.com), or mail it to me at the address shown on page 7 of this newsletter.

**NEWSLETTER  
ARTICLES DUE  
JULY 30, 2004****Archived Newsletters on CD**

The archived NCW newsletters are now available on CD, complete from June 1991 through to the current newsletter. See Mary to purchase a CD at the next meeting.

**Tennessee Symposium**

[www.tnwoodturners.org](http://www.tnwoodturners.org)

Mary has some registration forms for the "Tennessee Association of Woodturners Symposium" Aug. 13-15. See her for a form or e-mail [register@tnwoodturners.org](mailto:register@tnwoodturners.org) for more information.

**Want to learn something new  
about woodturning?**

*If you are interested in learning new skills, or improving the skills you have, contact one of these NCW members:*

- John Winslett (Tryon, NC)  
828-859-9863.
- Dean Amos (Sandy Ridge, NC)  
336-871-2916.
- David Propst (Valdese, NC)  
828-437-4722.
- Ric Erkes (Davidson, NC)  
704-896-3302.
- David Kaylor (Davidson, NC)  
704-892-8554.
- Sam McDowell (Statesville, NC)  
704-871-9801.
- Edgar Ingram (Statesville, NC)  
704-876-4576.
- Glenn Mace (Mocksville, NC)  
336-751-1001.
- Dick Nielson (Gastonia, NC)  
704-864-1742.
- Grant McRorie (Rutherfordton, NC)  
828-288-9572.
- Don Olsen (Lincolnton, NC)  
704 735-9335.
- Ron Mechling (Todd, NC)  
336-385-1250.
- Gene Dampier (Banner Elk, NC)  
828-898-6143.

*... or see what's offered at one of these  
Woodturning Schools*

**Arrowmont School of Arts and  
Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN**

865-436-5860

([www.arrowmont.org](http://www.arrowmont.org))

**Ice House Center, Davidson, NC**

(704) 892-7323

([www.icehousecenter.org](http://www.icehousecenter.org))

**John C. Campbell Folk School,**

Brasstown, NC

1-800-FOLK SCH

([www.folkschool.com](http://www.folkschool.com))

*If you want to volunteer as a mentor,  
please contact John Uteck with your  
information to include in the newsletter.*

## Demonstrator Review

by Ric Erkes



I hope you are reading this review because you want to be reminded of some of the ideas that Steve Ainsworth passed along last month. If you missed the meeting, you really need to watch the tape to see for yourself his “vessel in a vessel” demo or his afternoon demo of metal spinning. Both were very well done, not only technically, but also in the general sense of a well thought out demo.

First, if motivating and informing the public about woodturning is one of our goals then at least one of our symposiums was a resounding success. Steve had barely heard of the AAW when he attended our 2001 symposium. Thanks to John Hill helping Steve get started, he has truly been on an accelerated learning curve.

Steve started the day, with a few slides showing examples of his work emulating Trent Bosch’s “vessel in a vessel”. He mentioned how plagiarism eventually should evolve into copying your own work. In very little time, he has taken Trent’s technique and expanded it into vessels with multiple layers. I found it interesting that on one of his pieces there was no finish to allow for whatever natural patina would develop.

To help his demo flow smoothly along, Steve started with a vessel that was

already turned and finished on the outside. The inside wall thickness was consistent, but not highly finished since the final opening would be too small to see inside. This pre-hollowing allowed him to spend more time on the specific techniques of how to create the illusion that a vessel is turned inside another vessel. The main outside vessel had a bark inclusion in the side that left an opening to the inside. This void and the opening at the top was where he would expose the inside vessel.

Steve measured the diameter of the opening at the top and added 1/4 inch to yield an 1/8 inch gluing surface around on the inside of the top insert. Steve used a contour gauge to get the required profile. Grain orientation of the insert is important for its flexibility. The insert is turned side grain with the arc of the grain matching the curvature of the vessel’s top. It’s turned to the correct diameter, less than a 1/16 inch thick, and matched to the profile. Steve shaves off two opposite sides just a little to help fit the piece in the hole. He started some water boiling and dropped in several pre-turned inserts to allow for breakage. They boiled for about 25 minutes while he worked on the insert for the side.

Some additional measurements must be taken to work on the side insert. A contour gauge held level to the side was used to estimate the profile of this insert. Estimated because the true profile you want is the tighter curve of the inside. The side insert is eventually shaped and cut to fit through an opening. In this case, the opening of the void. Cutting the insert into smaller pieces may be the only way to do this. Once sanded and finished it is CA glued into position along the inside contour of the void. Easier said than done, I’m sure.

Once, the side is done the top insert can be flexed and dropped into the opening. Special balloons then need to be acquired from unknown sources. This balloon is put through the

opening and blown up to apply internal pressure to hold the insert into position. The balloon may need to be blown up more than once while the insert is drying. After it is dried, it is glued in and finished.



Steve is working on advancing this idea by having a small natural edge piece used as a base and inserting a much larger top. An insert is then place in this larger top. These can then be carved to create some interesting forms. Again, watch the video for the concept.

After lunch, Steve shifted his demo into an entirely new direction, metal spinning. Steve gave a background into the history of metal spinning and the qualities of various common metals. Having no preconceived idea how metal spinning was done, I found this demo to be very informative and interesting. Steve did not bring a vast arsenal of tools but rather just a couple of homemade highly polished steel tools and a broomstick handle. It became rather obvious that the various chucks, which are actually molds, and their designs are a critical aspect of metal spinning.

Steve used Pewter discs for the demo.



To order to learn to balance and bend the discs Steve began making metal coasters. As the discs became larger platters he learned to add beaded edges to provide stiffness. He has now progressed to vessels with multiple curves.

He works with a toolrest with a vertical post for leverage, because he needs to apply pressure to bend the metal. The tools bend the metal discs from below the tailstock spindle. German Brown Soap is used as a lubricant between the tools and the Pewter. Steve finished the pieces with non abrasive pads to give them a "brushed" finish look.



Steve spun ('turned' for us woodturners) a bowl to show the very basics of metal spinning. He then started explaining the difficulty of spun 'closed in' vessels. Imagine a vase being formed on a mold. The problem lies in turning a closed in vase where the mold size is larger at the bottom than the hole is at the top. This requires you to be able to collapse the mold in order to take it out through the opening. You can imagine how creative you need to be in building your chucks to accommodate the form you want to make. At least you can use the chuck multiple times.



To finish up the day, Steve spun a Pewter Goblet with a wooden stem. The Goblets are all the same size and Steve showed some techniques to make that happen by using various jigs. He stylized the stem by angling the rim of the upper portion. The Pewter cup is held in position with clear silicone caulk. Steve does sell these Goblets if you are interested.

Even if you have no inclination to spin metal bowls, I think we would all agree it was fun to watch Steve do his thing. At the pace he is going, I can only imagine what he'll be doing in two more years.



**From the  
American  
Association  
of  
Woodturners**

([www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org))

**The 18th Annual National  
AAW Symposium  
Date: July 23-25, 2004  
Location: Caribe Royale Hotel  
Orlando, Florida**

**LOCAL CHAPTER BEST  
WEBSITE AWARDS**

Thank you to all 18 local chapters that submitted their websites for the contest. As you can see when you check out their websites a great deal of work goes into a local website and I'm sure the local chapter members appreciate it.

The top three websites will receive award plaques at the Orlando Symposium. They are to be congratulated. The winners are listed below:

First Place:  
[www.carolinamountainwoodturners.org](http://www.carolinamountainwoodturners.org)  
*Carolina Mountain Woodturners*  
Webmaster - Paul Vonk

Second Place:  
[www.wnywoodturners.com](http://www.wnywoodturners.com)  
*Western New York Woodturners*  
Webmaster Kurt Hertzog

Third Place:  
[www.ovwg.org](http://www.ovwg.org)  
*Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild*  
Webmaster - John Wake

**LOCAL CHAPTER BEST  
NEWSLETTER AWARDS**

Thanks to the 26 chapters that entered the AAW's first chapter newsletter contest. The newsletters submitted

were really inspiring with all showing the imagination and talents of the respective volunteer editors.

Congratulations to the top three newsletter editors. They will receive award plaques at the 2004 Orlando Symposium. The winners are:

First Place:  
*OVWG Newsletter*  
*Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild*  
Pete Kekel, editor  
[www.ovwg.org/](http://www.ovwg.org/)

Second Place:  
*Minnesota Woodturners*  
*Minnesota Woodturners*  
Bonnie McDermid, editor  
[www.mnwoodturners.com/](http://www.mnwoodturners.com/)

Third Place:  
*CAW Newsletter*  
*Capital Area Woodturners*  
Jim Marstall, editor  
[www.capwoodturners.org](http://www.capwoodturners.org)

JUNE GALLERY - Photos by Bonner Guilford



Ric Erkes



John French



Edgar Ingram



Sam McDowell



J.T. Barker



Dwight Hartsell



Clarence Cogdell



John Uteck

# JUNE GALLERY

Photos by Bonner Guilford



Everett Tucker



John Uteck



Ric Erkes



Ric Erkes



## ***NORTH CAROLINA WOODTURNER*** **Journal of the North Carolina Woodturners Association**

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Dwight Hartsell



Sam McDowell



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John Uteck



Ric Erkes



Jerry Ostrander

Remember, our meetings are always at 1:00 on the second Saturday of the month at Klingspor's Woodworking Shop in Hickory unless otherwise noted in the Journal.

**NEXT MEETING: July 10th at 10:00 am**