



North Carolina **WOODTURNER**

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

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Banksia Pod Clocks
by Gene Dampier

Visit us on the web at www.geocities.com/nc_woodturners

THE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

By David Kaylor

As those of us who had seen Elvie Jackson demonstrate before anticipated, he did an excellent job of presenting his method of hollow turning with a natural edge. If you missed it and are interested in hollow turning, check out the video. Elvie at some point mentioned his “connected series” of turnings. I found Elvie’s series at www.woodturnersguild.com. It took a bit of searching the site to find them, so if you view the online edition of this newsletter, you can click on this site: http://www.woodturnersguild.com/mambo/index.php?option=com_zoom&Itemid=58&page=view&catid=19&key=22&hit=1. The whole site is quite impressive, and worth a visit.

Coleman Fourshee, General Manager of Klingspor’s Woodworking Shop, has asked us to do a woodturning show and

competition in connection with Klingspor’s Extravaganza in October. Because we are doing the Symposium November 5-6, the Board has questioned whether we can find enough volunteer energy for both the Klingspor show and our Symposium. We have not had great response to recent calls for volunteers. Our show at the Extravaganza last October was our first, and it went extremely well, thanks to Ron Mechling’s leadership. If you think we should do it again, and think it is important enough for you to volunteer some time, email me at dakaylor@bellsouth.net.

As Greg Miller’s report at our May meeting indicated, our club will provide weekly demonstrations at Camp Grimes, a boy scout camp, this June and July. Using the club’s mini-lathe, we will have an opportunity to encourage young people to try woodturning. Coincidentally I just read an article in the current issue of

Woodturning Design about 12-year old Austin Larrowe from Woodlawn, Virginia, who is already an accomplished user of a mini-lathe, making and selling pens, yo-yos and keychains. Austin got his inspiration from a pen demo at the Woodworking Shop in Winston. Who knows whether our demos at Camp Grimes might offer similar inspiration? If Gregg still has open slots for these demos, please step forward. If they are already filled, you might find other ways to introduce some young person to the joys of turning.

I regret that I will miss the June 11 meeting, which promises to be a good one, with John Penrod providing an all-day session on lidded vessels with finials. The meeting begins at 10:00. Sam McDowell will preside. The Board will meet during lunch break. I look forward to seeing you in July.

David

Program Notes - by Ric Erkes

Sorry I missed Elvie’s demo. I heard he did his usual great job. And now that we know how to make a bowl and a hollow form, let’s put a lid on them. And then let’s add a finial to the lid. That’s where John Penrod steps in. He is an accomplished turner and demonstrator living in Tallahassee, Florida. His work caught my eye when



he made the cover of the 3rd issue of “Woodturning Design”.

Lids and finials are two aspects of woodturning that require a

little forethought. Just how am I going to hold it? Can I reverse it, once I turn

one side? How do I make it fit? Which part should I turn first? These are just a few of the questions I wish I had thought of before I started making my first few lids. Well, that is why I asked John to help keep these questions from becoming problems.

Coordinating the shape of the lid to flow with the lines of the vessel and choosing a finial’s height to keep the piece in proportion are two other problem areas that John does a beautiful job solving.

An added little twist to his demo will be that he works with sub-tropical woods local to Florida. He will be bringing along some pieces turned from Grapefruit, various Palms, and Norfolk Island Pine. The meeting will be begin at 10:00, so remember to come early and enjoy lunch among



Next Meeting: June 11th at 10:00 am

Demonstrator: John Penrod

Demonstration: Lidded Vessels with Finials



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

friends.

As an aside, I've been hinting at it for awhile now, but I'm stepping aside. I've taken on a new job (finally!) and won't be able to control my schedule for the foreseeable future. There is even a strong possibility of a move to Florida. The good news is that all the programs are scheduled for the rest of this year with a start into next year. The hollowing tool demo and the picnic will take a little extra effort, but we were going to need that even if I was still available. Someone needs to step up, and the time is now. I'll be glad to pass along my notes.

Doubtful if I can make the next meeting, but hope so, because I think it will be a good one and my finials could certainly use some help.



Library News - by Mary Bachand

I hope that all of you have enjoyed having your rentals for an extra month "on the house". But-I do expect ALL rentals to be returned on or before our June meeting. If you don't plan to attend the June meeting, mail them to me at least a week before the meeting so that I can bring them to the meeting.

Now for the "Mystery of the St. Stephens Branch Library in Hickory"!!! I recently received a book from that library that someone had turned in. Thankfully, someone noticed that it wasn't one of that library's books. The book, "The Art of Woodworking, Woodworking Machines" by Time Life, belongs to our library. It has been missing for so long that I had thrown away the check out card. In fact, the address in the book was my address for two addresses ago.

I did send the library a thank you note and a check to cover their expenses. Frankly, I'm glad that I threw away the card because I really don't care to know who would be so careless with our equipment. End of sermon!

NCW Calendar of Events

July 9 @ 1:00 pm - Don Olsen - "Various Ways to Turn Crotches".

Aug 13 @ 10:00 am - Alan Hollar - Texturing, carving and finishes.

Sept 10 @ 1:00 pm - Members - Show off your hollowing tool.

October 8 - Camp Grimes Boy Scout camp.

November 5-6 - Carolina Symposium.

December - Holiday Festival.

2005 Challenge Projects

June - plywood project.

July - 2x4's - use no more than one 8' long 2x4.

August - turn a bird, animal, fish, etc. - either multi-center turning, or multiple turnings joined.

September - then and now! Bring in one of your early turnings, and one of your recent ones.

October - wearables - something to wear.

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:

- * Dean Amos (Sandy Ridge, NC) 336-871-2916.
- * Gene Dampier (Banner Elk, NC) 828-898-6143.
- * Ric Erkes (Davidson, NC) 704-896-3302.
- * Edgar Ingram (Statesville, NC) 704-876-4576.
- * David Kaylor (Davidson, NC) 704-892-8554.
- * Glenn Mace (Mocksville, NC) 336-751-1001.
- * Sam McDowell (Statesville, NC) 704-871-9801.
- * Grant McRorie (Rutherfordton, NC) 828-288-9572.
- * Ron Mechling (Shelby, NC) 704-487-0506.
- * Jim Miles (Cornelius, NC) 704-661-0600.
- * Dick Nielson (Gastonia, NC) 704-864-1742.
- * Don Olsen (Lincolnton, NC) 704 735-9335.

... 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)

Ice House Center, Davidson, NC
(704) 892-7323
(www.icehousecenter.org)

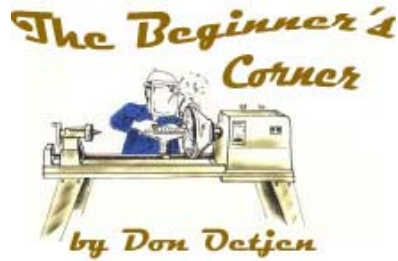
John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC
1-800-FOLK SCH
(www.folkschool.com)

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



NCW Logo Clothing

910-582-0051
www.vectorshirts.com



Lets talk about tools. Most of us started out modestly with an inexpensive lathe and a set of carbon steel tools. They may have come with the lathe or you bought them figuring that you'd get by cheaply until you found out whether or not you'd have lasting interest in turning. So now what? You've found that you do like turning, have some skill and want to take the next steps. You're thinking about a new lathe and new high speed tools.

I can't really help you much with the lathe purchase because it depends so much on what you want to turn and what you feel you want to spend. If your interest is limited to making pens and bottle stoppers, etc., buy a mini lathe. If you want to turn bowls I suggest that you will find a 12" swing to be limiting and a 16" swing just about right unless you are determined to turn really big pieces. I've found a 15"-15½" diameter blank to be as much as I can lift when putting it on the lathe so I am perfectly happy with my 16" Woodfast.

First of all don't throw or give away those carbon steel tools. There will be times when you will need a special

profile for some piece and you can grind one of your cheap tools for this cut. All the catalogues offer a set of beginners' tools but I'd suggest you avoid them. One set I've seen is advertised at \$165 contains a 1/2" bowl gouge, a 3/4" radius scraper, a parting tool, a 3/8" spindle gouge and a 1/2" skew. Of these I think only the bowl gouge is a good first purchase.

My suggestion is your first high speed steel buy should be a 1/2" bowl gouge from one of the name manufacturers. There are several things you should know about hi speed steel tools. The designated size is the width of the flute on a bowl gouge. The diameter of the stock is 1/8" larger so a 1/2" bowl gouge is made from 5/8" stock (One Way is the exception).

The most common stock material is designated M2. Stock of other materials is claimed to last up to 5 times as long but I have not found that to be true in my turning.

I'd rather buy two M2 steel tools and sharpen more frequently than pay the extra for M4 or powdered metallurgy. A cutting edge is a fragile thing. It doesn't take much turning to begin to dull any tool. Remember the basic premise of sharpening - You don't sharpen when the tool is dull, you resharpen when the edge is not as sharp as it should be for taking clean cuts.

I also recommend that you stay with one manufacturer. The shape of the

flute varies greatly. A U shaped flute results in a more rounded nose when sharpened as a finger nail grind; a V shaped flute will have a more pointed nose. Look at the different manufacturers tools at the Woodworking shop to see which one appeals to you.

A second tool might be a 3/8" bowl gouge for smaller bowls or for working in tighter spaces. Make your own scraper by following the directions in my January '05 news letter article. A parting tool is a useful tool in some situations. I prefer the ultra thin model offered in many catalogues for actual parting work but the wider 1/8" heavier tool is also a useful addition to your inventory. You'll find it valuable for making grooves or for working to assure a flat area in a tight space.

Once you have these few tools you'll find they cover any situation involved in bowl turning. As your skills increase and as you progress to hollow forms, platters and spindle work for finials or bottle stoppers you will recognize what you need and can add them.

Each month Don will have tips, techniques and suggestions which will be of most interest to those members who are in the early stage of their turning career. If any member has a question or subject they would like to see covered send an e-mail to Don at donoetjen@aol.com.

Elvie Jackson review...
.....in the July newsletter



THE DOG ATE MY HOMEWORK!



the Photo List

the Dog

Thanks to my dog, some photos will be anonymous.



A good crowd at the May meeting!



MAY GALLERY - Photos by Bonner Guilford



Dean Amos



Jerry Ostrander



Harold Lineberger

MAY GALLERY - Photos by Bonner Guilford



Jim Miles



Sam McDowell



Jerry Ostrander



Jerry Ostrander

MAY GALLERY

Photos by Bonner Guilford



Jim Miles



Sam McDowell



J.D. Reinhardt



Elvie Jackson



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Elvie Jackson



Gil Millsaps



Jim Miles



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: June 11th at 10:00 am