



North Carolina **WOODTURNER**

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

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August 2005



J.D. Reinhardt
Pine, Maple, Walnut

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

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By David Kaylor

July 9 was another good day for NCW. Don Olsen generously shared his wit, wisdom and skills for the benefit of all at the well-attended meeting. The fact that almost everyone stayed until the end shows the appreciation we had for his demonstration. Okay, sometimes the funny lines were a bit corny, but that's one of the things we love about Don. I'm sure we all hope Don's demo at the AAW Symposium goes well. He will also represent our club at the Chapters meeting while there.

Woodturners talk a lot, but never too much, about safety. One aspect of safety that we often neglect to talk about is the use of the chainsaw, which most of us use in preparing wood for turning. If you haven't read it, check

out Jacques Vesery's helpful article in the Spring issue of *American Woodturner*. He provides a good summary of the things we need to be aware of in using this useful but potentially dangerous tool. Since reading about it alone is not enough, our plans for the October picnic meeting at Camp Grimes include having a demonstration, and perhaps hands-on instruction, in the proper and safe use of the chain saw. So, read the article and come to the picnic.

As announced at our July meeting, we will elect two new Board members at our August meeting. The Board has placed in nomination the names of Barbara Ward and Bill Williams. Other nominations can be made from the floor, provided permission has been given by the nominee.

Thanks to Sam McDowell for stepping

up to fill out Ric Erkes term as our program chairman. Ric has done an outstanding job, and will be greatly missed. Sam will appreciate our full cooperation and support.

Speaking of volunteering: At our August meeting, we will have a volunteer sign-up sheet so every member will have an opportunity to enlist for the various tasks we have to accomplish to continue to be a flourishing club. Study the list in the July issue of the Newsletter and come prepared to indicate your first, second, and third choices of jobs.

Our all-day meeting with Alan Hollar will provide plenty of time for you to do that. I look forward to seeing all of you there, beginning at 10:00. The Board will meet during the lunch break.

David

Program Notes

by Sam McDowell

Alan Hollar is a full time woodturner living and working near Grandfather Mtn. near Newland, NC. He began woodworking running his own furniture restoration business in 1985, and transition to working solely as a woodturner in 1997. He is a member of the Southern Highlands Craft Guild, and the Piedmont Craftsmen. His work uses primarily native timber and includes a variety of carved and textured detail.

His demo will start at 10am and run till 4pm, with a lunch break. He will have three subjects that he will cover: finishing (he is well known in the region as an expert), power carving and surface texturing.

NCW Calendar of Events

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

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.

November - Symposium Gallery.

December - birdhouse ornaments.

Membership - by Mary Bachand

We continue to welcome new members. James Robbins of Mt. Holly, NC came as a guest of Gil Millsaps. So-Gil needs to get free raffle tickets for bringing in a member. Richard Freund of Davidson, NC was our second addition. Welcome to both.

Our president, David Kaylor, explained how we are trying to involve more of you in the functioning of our group. I mentioned several volunteers in my library column but I also noticed another member jump to help during our meeting instead of getting to watch the demo. George Wunker was taking pictures of our outstanding gallery for the journal and Ron Mechling was his "fetch and get it" helper. This made George's task much easier.

I bet, if some more of you volunteer in August, clean-up will be a breeze, Jesse Wilkinson will get some help with the coffee area, and you'll get to make some wonderful turning friends.

Next Meeting: August 13th at 10:00 am

Demonstrator: Alan Hollar

Demonstration: Finishing, Power Carving, Texturing



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

Library News - by Mary Bachand

As usual, I'm begging for video and DVD ideas to order. I did look through the Woodworking Shop and purchased 3 books- Dick Sing Turns Miniature Birdhouses, Woodturning-A Fresh Approach by Robert Chapman, and Shapes for Woodturners by David Weldon.

I do hope that you appreciate how nicely our library is arranged and cataloged. It was all Jack Freeman's idea and he faithfully keeps up with each new item.

In case you newer members are unaware, a

Demonstrator Review

by John Melius

Crotches, crotches, and more crotches! Don Olsen's demonstration on turning crotches at the July meeting left most of us rather spellbound AND bewildered!



The slide show that Don had prepared was an added benefit. The slides depicted some of his work. The turned crotches displayed a fantastic array of wood grain configuration that has no match except perhaps in some burls. Don's ability of pulling out some of the artistic visions of these grains is simply amazing. Each of his pieces were named and, after looking closely at the piece, one could see Don's vision.

The slide show also gave Don the opportunity to show us some of the prep work he uses to prepare the crotch for turning. I, for one, feel that it will take a number of years of turning before I would not have grave anticipation and apprehension over mounting a three-pronged crotch on my lathe to attempt to turn it.

After the slides, Don mounted a slice of a crotch that he had brought with him.

video is made of each monthly demo and can be rented from the library. J. T. Barker, Scott Caskey, or Sam McDowell man the equipment to record the demos.

While I'm name-dropping, I have one more name to drop. Harold Lineberger sent in a dollar as he was going to miss the July meeting and he didn't want me to make him "famous". But-I doubt that most of you know a way that Harold has quietly volunteered for years. When he is in town, at the end of the meetings Harold closes, locks, and moves the library cabinets for me. This is greatly appreciated.

Proceeding, Don made the turning look like the proverbial "piece of cake". The turning was more a piece of artwork than one would perhaps think of our traditional bowls, vases, goblets, etc. Seeing this demonstration reminded me of what someone once told me about woodturners..that we enjoy making something beautiful out of a piece of wood that no one else wants, i.e., a crotch, burls, wood with voids and/or bark inclusions, etc. I guess it's called making chicken salad out of "something else to do with the chicken"!

Throughout the slides and demonstration, Don reminded us of the need to be constantly aware of safe shop practices.

As an unstated tribute to Don, most of the membership stayed to the very end. A statement that everyone appreciated his artistic talents, skills and humor. Not bad for a man originally from Vale...as Don explained, Vale is due West of Denver and Northwest of Dallas!

Many thanks to Don. His personality and expertise made this a very interesting demonstration.

**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)

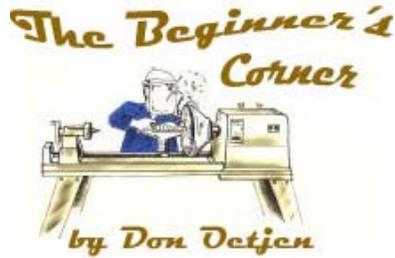
John C. Campbell Folk School,
Brasstown, NC
1-800-FOLK SCH
(www.folkschool.com)

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



We have previously written of the mechanical side of turning, the "how to" side but there is a component that is mental or philosophical, if you will. Ken Bachand, former editor of our journal wrote a very thoughtful article in 1991, the very first full year of the existence of the North Carolina Woodturners Association. We reprint it here for your enjoyment.

AROUND AND AROUND WE GO!

"Nature moves in circles... The natural is rounded; the artificial is made up of angles." - "Beauty is Nature in perfection; circularity is its chief attribute." - "On the other hand, straight lines show that Nature has been deflected." - "When we begin to move in straight lines and turn sharp corners, our nature begins to change." *from "Squaring the Circle" by O'Henry.*

William Sidney Porter (O'Henry) was never regarded as a philosopher; however, his short stories are punctuated by philosophical insights into human nature - the comical, the crude, the bitter, the ironic. In depicting the ironies of human nature, whether humorous or sad, he was at his best.

The story from which the quotes were taken deals with a feud that originated in the hills of eastern Kentucky and culminated on the streets of New York. One feudist had pursued his mortal enemy there to do what their families had been doing to each other for generations. But finding himself surrounded by all that to him was strange, unnatural, and confusing, he became lonely. The straight lines of the big city, both horizontal and vertical,

were too contradictory to all that he had known. The crowds of people hurrying in all directions were in stark contrast to the unhurried lifestyle from which he had come. He longed for something familiar. Suddenly he found it, or there before him stood his mortal enemy. His vengeful rage was melted by the sight of something familiar, and the bitter feud ended with the warm greeting, "Howdy, Cal."

And are we so different? It depends on how you see it. The fact is that although not being truly philosophical, O'Henry nevertheless touched a point of truth. Circularity is more common in nature than is straightness. The universe, science tells us, is curved, even parallel lines will ultimately meet. Our galaxy is a giant pinwheel, and our solar system is a merry-go-round - the planets orbiting the sun, the moons orbiting their planets, and each rotating on its axis. The atoms from which it all is made are but whirling masses of energy. Everything is in circular motion!

Turning is, therefore, the most natural of all movements, so much so that say "turn" even when that which takes place is not a circular movement. We turn on the lights, turn off loud music, turn in for the night, turn out for a parade, turn down a raise if we've lost our minds, and believe that turnabout is fair play. If we could, we'd turn back time! The weather turns better or worse, and at this beautiful time of the year, we say the leaves are turning.

Boxers fight rounds on a square stage that we call a ring. We round off numbers, round over sharp corners, and round up cattle. We stand around, sit around, walk around, and look around. Sometimes we fool around. There are vicious circles and circles of friends. Just the right curves in just the right places make us attractive to each other, and it is well known that the longest way around is the sweetest way home. Rays of sun-light are as straight as anything can be, but only when they are refracted to form that most perfect of

all arcs, the rainbow, do we see the fullness of their beauty. With the discovery of the wheel, man put circularity to work, and it is said that he thus became civilized. Be it weather cycles, business cycles, or the life cycle, circularity of both form and motion seem to dominate all, creation.

All that being said, isn't it reasonable to conclude that what we do is most complementary to nature? When we take straight boards or misshapen parts of trees and turn them into round forms, we are acting in concert with nature by revealing in the loveliest of all forms the beauty which we ourselves could not have put there. That which might otherwise have been burned, buried, or left to rot is thus saved; moreover, it can now be loved! - K. B.

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.



Edgar Ingram



David Kaylor



November 5th and 6th, 2005 Statesville, North Carolina

About the Demonstrators

Matthew Birchfield of Christiansburg, Virginia has been woodturning since a “fortunate layoff” in the summer of 2000. His interest in turning began because he couldn’t afford to buy the drums that he wanted and thought that it would be easy to make them himself with a home-made lathe and scrapers. One thing led to another and now he’s got the addiction/affliction we all know and love.

Jim Mcphail is from Fairview, NC which is just outside of Asheville. Jim is a Southern Highland Craft Guild artist and is known for his small, multi-layered bowls. Jim combines a wide range of complex visual graphics (woods, color, and texture) with simple forms to create his one-of-a-kind turnings. He has been a professional craft artist for eleven years.

Charles Nall, Jr. of Sanford, NC is a retired Civil Engineer who enjoys turning ugly wood into treasures. He has been woodturning for the last six years. He has studied at The Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, The John C. Campbell Folk School, and under many influential turners such as Ray Key, John Jordan, Jean Francois Escoulen, Ron Flemming, Michael O’Donnell, and Nick Cook.

Darren Gozy resides in Cary, NC. He is a software developer for Computer Sciences Corporation. He has been turning since 2002 but like many hobbyists with busy lives he finds it difficult to find the time to dedicate to turning. When he does

find time, he enjoys turning challenging projects, hollow forms and small items that allow for quick gratification.

Sam McDowell is a native of Statesville, NC. He spent twenty years in the USAF and Kentucky Air National Guard. He has been employed as a USAirways pilot since 1985. He began woodturning in 1994. He is currently on the board of North Carolina Woodturners.

Greg Wilson was born and raised in Texas but his family moved to NC in 1997 after taking a position with a law firm in Charlotte where he still works. A few years ago, he brought a mini lathe to make some chess pieces for a board his dad and he had made. While he was still learning how to turn and making some prototype chess pieces, someone mentioned he could also turn pens. Now, several thousand pens later, he still hasn’t finished the chess set but has done lots and lots of pens.

Don Olsen has been turning full-time since 1993. He has demonstrated at club meetings, industry shows and local and national symposiums. He has instructed others in woodturning and is currently teaching at the Icehouse in Davidson, NC. His work is in collections around the country, and has been accepted into international juried exhibits and has won numerous awards from area art shows and exhibits.

Mark Kauder lives in the small town of Phenix City, Alabama. After

retiring from the Army, he slowly started woodturning. In 1998 while in Atlanta, he saw a woodturning demonstration and that started the “wheels turning”. He fell in love with segmented turning. It gives him lots of options and no two bowls are the same. He doesn’t have any insightful “artist’s statement” to make. He just tries to make bowls with attractive shapes, using nice combinations of wood and design features that do not overpower the shape.

Joe Ruminski of has been a professional woodturner for the past four years. He is a member of the Southern Highland Craft Guild, a member of Carolina Mountain Woodturners and a member of AAW. He has been a presenter for Arrowmont and is currently a retired educator.

Alan Leland resides in Durham, NC. He has been a demonstrator at numerous state and national meetings, including the American Association of Woodturners Annual Symposium. He has also published an article in American Woodturner magazine. A true woodturning aficionado, Alan has studied with internationally known turners, has taught at John C. Campbell Folk School, the Craft Center, among others.

Myron Curtis is a full-time architectural turner in Virginia. He has been turning since 1937. He has taught woodturning in the public school system for 18 years. He has been a demonstrator at a number of national and state symposiums.

JULY GALLERY - Photos by George Wunker

Red Mallee



Ron Mechling



Don Oetjen

Maple

Ambrosia Maple "Dolphin Arch"



Don Olsen



Jim Miles

Bloodwood, Mahogany, Walnut

2x4



John Melius



Sam McDowell

Spalted Beech

Pecan



Jerry Ostrander



Jerry Ostrander

Pecan & Walnut

2005 Carolina Woodturning Symposium Registration Form

To pre-register, fill out the form below, and send it along with a check (made out to "2005 Carolina Woodturning Symposium") to the registrar at the address below. The cutoff date for pre-registration is October 27, 2005.

Name: _____
 Spouse: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Registrar:
 Mary Bachand, 296 Laurel Park Place,
 Hendersonville, NC 28791
 Phone: 828-696-8372, Email: kbachand@juno.com

Cost:			
Both Days:	\$60.00	\$	_____
Saturday only:	\$30.00	\$	_____
Sunday only:	\$35.00	\$	_____
Spouse attending demo:	\$30.00	\$	_____
Sunday lunch:	\$7.00	\$	_____
TOTAL		\$	_____

Registration is \$65.00 at the door.

Bradford Pear



Ed Mackey

Bigleaf Maple Burl



Dean Amos



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November 5th and 6th, 2005 Statesville, North Carolina

This event will feature local and regional demonstrators and is designed to promote the craft of woodturning as well as renew the goodwill of woodtumers and prospective woodturners throughout our region. The mission of this event is to provide an environment for networking and education for members of the regional woodturning community and for promotion of the art and craft from the lathe. Through active demonstrations we hope to provide avenues for expansion in one's woodturning, as well as introducing non-turners to the craft.

Symposium Sponsors:

Woodturners Guild of North Carolina (Raleigh)
North Carolina Woodturners (Hickory)
Piedmont Triad Woodturners (Greensboro)

Participating Clubs:

Down East Turners (Kinston)
Carolina Mountain Woodturners (Asheville)

JULY GALLERY - Photos by George Wunker



Oak

Don Olsen



Rosewood

Ron Mechling



Oak

Scott Caskey



White Pine

David Kaylor

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: August 13th at 10:00 am