



North Carolina WOODTURNER

Journal of the North Carolina Woodturners Association
A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners
www.ncwoodturners.com

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Glenn Mace—Buckeye Burl

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Gary Ritchie
Cherry, Walnut, Maple



The AAW is dedicated to the advancement of woodturning by providing education, information, organization, technical assistance, and publications relating to woodturning. The North Carolina Woodturners Association purpose is to promote an interest in wood turning for persons of all levels, and to encourage membership in, and give support to, the American Association of Woodturners.

President's Message by John Melius

Thanks to all members, we started the new year without any real problems. It was encouraging to see the number of members who pitched in to help set up AND clean up for the meeting on January 12. THANK YOU! This type of cooperation makes our meetings much more enjoyable for all. Please maintain the good attitude.

Congratulations are in order for Reggie Sweat and Jim Moore. Reggie won the drawing for the Club's \$500 scholarship to a woodturning school. Jim won Chuck Cameron's challenge to detect the common safety violations committed during his presentation.

Safety in the workshop is something we should all practice each time we turn. It never hurts to have a review from time-to-time so we don't become complacent as we practice our art. Thanks, Chuck!

If you have not paid your 2008 dues, the deadline is the next meeting, February 9. If dues are not paid by then, your name will not be in the new directory. Also, if you are not yet a member of the AAW, please consider the benefits.

Membership & Library News by Mary Bachand

Membership: Last Call! Our February meeting is the last day that I will take renewal dues for our 2008 directory. At the time of this writing, 49 of you haven't renewed. Your check can be sent to me at 296 Laurel Park Place in Hendersonville, NC 28791 or brought to our meeting. PLEASE remember to fill in your renewal slip and bring it, too.

One of our first new members this year is Robert McCoy of Hickory. Wayne Veit will get free raffle tickets for introducing NCW to Robert. Welcome also to new members, Fred Walker of Moravian Falls and Patricia Mozgala of Hickory.

Please leave your name tag after our meeting as I need to take the case home with me and get the name tags back in the correct order.

Library: A special "thank you" to Sharon Lochaby for running the library for me in January. Be sure to return your rentals or I may make you "famous".

The Lincoln County Historical Association &
Lincoln Cultural Center present:

Donald Olsen *The Mystery of Wood*

February 16—March 6, 2008

Reception: February 16th 6:30—8:00pm

Cochrane & Carolina Mills Galleries
Lincoln Cultural Center
403 East Main Street
Lincolnton, North Carolina

You're invited to meet the artist and join us
for a reception featuring the wines of
Rodney Strong Vineyards.

RSVP: 704-748-9090 or lcmh@bellsouth.net



Slide Presentation & Discussion

The Mystery of Wood

What really IS in that tree?

February 23rd

10:00am—12:00pm

Lincoln Cultural Center
403 East Main Street
Lincolnton, North Carolina
(corner of Main St. & Cedar St.)

From US321 take exit 24, turn
right and head west on NC27/150

Following the slide presentation,
Don will lead a walk through the
exhibit answering any questions.



A Tribute to Palmer Sharpless—Teacher, Craftsman and Mentor

Hundreds of people gathered on December 21, 2002 at the George School Meeting House in Newtown, Pennsylvania, to celebrate the life and mourn the death of beloved woodshop teacher Palmer Sharpless. He died on December 4, 2002, after a brief battle with cancer.

“He coached us with his gentle, knowing insistence on care and quality,” Judson Randall, 55, said of his former woodshop teacher.

Palmer’s successor and current woodshop teacher Carter Sio, 76, recounts memories of his friend and mentor. “That soft voice, the gentle manner—whether demonstrating, teaching or talking to a stranger—Palmer had the gift of making us all feel safe and confident.”

In 1976, Palmer participated in the first woodturning symposium for educators. George School then co-sponsored the next nine years of symposiums before turning over the reins to others. Palmer also played a crucial role in the resulting American Association of Woodturners and was chairman of its local chapter committee. His exuberant good humor and

charisma no doubt played a role in the organization’s success. The organization now lists more than 8300 members and 140 local chapters.

A consummate teacher, Palmer was a frequent presenter at national symposiums, Bucks County craft fairs and historic events at Pennsbury Manor, William Penn’s country home.

At George School, Palmer was also chair of the arts department and the originator of the annual October event—Harvest Weekend—that popularized apple butter making on campus.

A skilled craftsman, Palmer made commissioned pieces for Tiffany & Co. and turned 100 pieces of mahogany for the Independence Hall restoration in Philadelphia. In addition, he made customized furniture for architects and homebuilders. Palmer also made woodturned bowls, honey dippers and baby toys that are cherished by friends and admirers.

Palmer retired in 1984 after nearly 40 years of teaching woodshop at George School. Carter said that even through the last years of his life, Palmer continued to “lead and model as though he were still in the classroom, teaching us to hold dearly the gifts we have and to leave the world a better place when it is our time to pass on.”

By *Christina Lucuski*

Excerpt From *The Georgian—A Publication of George School, Newtown, Pennsylvania—Volume 75, Number 1, Winter 2003*

We are very fortunate to have NancyLynn Sharpless with us for the February 9th meeting. There will be a slideshow presentation and Nancy will discuss the history of the AAW and tells us about her father, Palmer Sharpless.

NancyLynn Sharpless was born and raised in historic Bucks County, PA (NE of Philadelphia, PA). Her childhood was spent doing things—4H, Girl Scouts, community service projects, gardening, sewing her own clothes, etc. etc.

She attended daily coed shop classes at George School and took a 9th grade year of drafting the old way.

She graduated from Millersville University with a major in Industrial Arts. She was one in 300 guys in the department!

The next 30 years was spent teaching first “shop” through to “Technology Education” in Ann Arbor, MI middle schools. She loved the students and the program, but disliked all the politics.

NancyLynn moved to Morganton this past summer where she is a retired wife of a doctor and spends her time quilting, beading, working in the community and visiting relatives in Asheville and Spruce Pine.

Demonstrator Review - Chuck Cameron — January 12, 2008 by Russell Willis

Chuck Cameron is no stranger to the lathe, and now we know, he is no stranger to dramatic acting. As the demonstration progressed, we were asking ourselves if he is as good at turning as he is at acting. For some, that may remain an open question. Best not to quit your day job yet, Chuck.

Chuck Cameron brought us an unusual demonstration on woodturning safety.

With years of experience in both turning and safety, he challenged us to careful attentiveness and group participation. I have seldom seen it done better.

His motto is: HAVE FUN, BUT DO IT SAFELY.

With only three minutes into his presentation, he stopped and challenged us to list the four safety blunders he had already made. The best guess was three. With that, we all determined to pay better attention. No need to fail this class the first day out!

With an intent to challenge us even more, he soldiers ahead. All sorts of safety errors are acted out. A slipped tool off the tool post, a chunk of wood flies off the turning blank, he shuffles on the shavings at his feet, lays the toolrest on the ways, and all the while carrying on a tongue-in-cheek monologue. No easy feat.

This man has a gift for snaring our attention.

His list and demonstration of safety blunders grow ever longer. Now he says, we are to twenty-five. I have noted only nineteen. Some have even more than his twenty-five. They probably brought a list from home!

Retract the chuck jaws..... Tools go into the bucket point down.....Don't you see that loose knot in the blank?.....Is the tool rest long enough?..... Is the floor clean?.....Put that oily rag in the proper can...You mean you use your thumb as a gage?....The list builds.

Most of us taking notes soon realize that we are no match for his machine-gun delivery; nevertheless we cheerfully agree that Chuck is right. All of us make these safety blunders far more often than we ought.

The list builds.....Nicks in the toolrest,....tailstock not tight,....no dust mask,... long sleeves,.... no face shield,.....What, you are wearing gloves? No eye protection? Line up your belly-button with the middle of the lathe.....Feet wide apart.....Do you really need your watch while turning? Driving spur well embedded?...

The demonstration ends too quickly, but not before we have learned new things and reviewed old habits.

All of us know to turn safely, but we still continue to make these blunders. Some, alas, carry souvenirs of the tragic consequences of those errors.

We now are challenged to apply these lessons, review our turning habits, and make turning an enjoyable safe activity.

Remember Chuck's way of putting it? "Turning is fun, but safety is dead serious."

There was, however a notable conclusion to the game that Chuck played with us. Our congratulations to Jim Moore who beat out Chuck's own students to win the prize. Ole' Jim must not have blinked a single time!

Great presentation, fine technique, excellent voice modulation, and nice footwork with a little soft-shoe on the side... There ought to be an Emmy out there somewhere.....Thanks Chuck

NCW Meeting at Camp Grimes

Save May 10th for a great NCW meeting. It will be held at Camp Grimes Boy Scout Camp on Hwy 226 between Shelby and Marion, NC. We will have some special outdoors & wood related programs that can't be done in our regular meeting location.

- Bandsaw-sawmill-you can bring your own logs to be sawn or just see how it works
- Tree identification

- Chainsaw safety and usage
- Lumberjack demonstration
- Ringmaster demonstration
- Tour of 1850 Log Cabin site
- Make Poplar bark baskets
- Blacksmithing & Toolmaking
- Picnic cookout for dinner

Plan now on enjoying a great day—spouses are welcome and will have some special programs available.

January Challenge Project—Turn a Toy

20 entries in January!

Can YOU Go the Distance In 2008?

Marathoners are those who complete all 12 challenge projects for 2008. Those who successfully finish the marathon will be awarded a

\$50 gift certificate from Klingspor And a Trophy!

The awards presentation will take place at the December Christmas Party in 2008. Also each month, the most creative entry will be picked. The turner with the most creative entry will win a *\$10 gift certificate!*

MARATHON RULES

- **2008 Entries must be turned in 2008! The only exception is the January 2008 entry. It may be turned in December 2007.**
- **Entries must not have been shown before.**
- **If you miss a month's challenge, you can bring it to the next month's meeting.**

Dave Allen
Scott Caskey
Clarence Cogdell
Greg Crowder
Steve Hoyle
Robert Kirby
Harold Lineberger
Sharon Lochaby
Claude Lucas
Sam McDowell
Ron Mechling
John Melius
Jim Miles
Mike Mills
Tom Niemeier
Jerry Ostrander
Ken Phillips
Max Schronce
Orville Shook
Russell Willis

CHALLENGE PROJECT WINNER!



Harold Lineberger—Oak & Maple Top



Tom Niemeier—Sweet Gum Rattle



Greg Crowder—Sapole Rattle

2008 Challenge Projects

- * **January** - Turn a Toy <http://www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Projects/baby-rattle.html>
- * **February**—Turn a Square Edge Bowl http://www.teknaatool.com/projects/Toolbox_Square%20Edged%20Bowl.pdf
- * **March** - Turn a Lidded Vessel http://www.turnwood.net/gallery_boxes_lidded_forms.html (examples only, no instructions)
- * **April** - Turn a Trivet <http://www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Projects/trivet.html>
- * **May** - Turn it, cut it up, and create a piece of art!
- * **June** - Turn it and color it (no burning)
- * **July** - Turn a Bottle Stopper <http://www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Projects/bottlestoppers.html>
- * **August** - Turn a Spoon or a Spatula <http://www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Projects/spoons.html>
- * **September** - Turn a Gavel <http://www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Projects/gavel.html>
- * **October** -Turn a Lamp <http://www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Projects/lamps.html>
- * **November** - Turn a Lazy Susan Server <http://aroundthewoods.com/lazy.shtml>
- * **December** - Turn Christmas Ornaments <http://www.margefelder.com/ornaments/turned-wood-christmas-tree-ornaments.htm>



Sam McDowell—Mahogany Rattle



Claude Lucas—Poplar Top



David Kaylor—Walnut & Maple Ornament

December 2007 challenge

January Challenge Project—Turn a Toy



Mike Mills—Maple Rattle



Steve Hoyle—Poplar Top



Sharon Lochaby—Tops



Max Schronce—Walnut & Cherry Rattle



John Melius—Top



Orville Shook—Purple Heart Car



Scott Caskey—Maple Rattle



Ron Mechling
Purple Heart Top



Russell Willis—Two Man Top



Dave Allen—Train



Jim Miles—Poplar & CD Top



Robert Kirby—Holly & Walnut



Clarence Cogdell—Ash & Cherry Kaleidoscope



Jerry Ostrander—Sourwood & Dogwood



Ken Phillips—Oak Top



This corner addresses some basic considerations when harvesting wood from a log. Not so much from a technical view, but more from a visual appeal point of view.

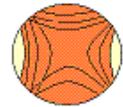
After you've learned the basics on turning natural edge and open bowls, consideration should be given to the design and visual appeal of the finished piece. Knowing the basic structure of the log and how the grain flows, and using that knowledge to harvest the blank, can have lots of influence on what the finished piece looks like. The basic parts of the log for this discussion include the bark, sap wood, heart wood and pith.

By drawing the shape of the bowl on the end grain of the log, one can predict how the bowl will look after its turned.

Start by inspecting the log and drawing the shape of the desired piece. Consider Picture-1 below. This is picture of a log and I've drawn the shape of 2 bowls on it. (you will have to use some imagination here) Bowl 1 will be a natural edge bowl and bowl 2 will be an open bowl. Note that both bowls are centered on the pith. Also note that neither bowl includes the pith, although this has nothing to do with aesthetics.



Bowl 1



Bowl 2

For bowl 1, centering the bowl on the pith will cause nice concentric rings at the bottom and a fairly even band of sap wood at the rim. Bowl 2 will include a portion of sapwood near the rim and all heartwood for the remainder. The diagrams "attempt" to show what the predicted results would be for bowl 1 and 2. For bowl 1, the diagram shows the inside and side view. For bowl 2 the diagram shows the side and bottom views.

That's it for this months corner.

As always, please email me with any comments / suggestions regarding the corner.
Ed Mackey (woodenforms@yahoo.com)

A Day at the Lathe—April 5th, 2008

The Southern Piedmont Woodturners presents the third annual "A Day at the Lathe" 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Saturday, April 5 at the Davis Theatre in the Historic Courthouse, 65 Union St. S., Concord, NC. Featuring nationally and internationally recognized woodturners Dave Barriger, Larry Hasiak, and John Lucas. Each turner will present a two hour woodturning demonstration; Dave Barriger - Elevated Turnings, Larry Hasiak - Hollowing the Low Tech Way, and John Lucas - Hand Mirrors. There will be an Instant Gallery, Raffle, and Auction. \$45 pre registration by March 15 or \$60 at the door. Come and see old woodturning friends and make new ones.

For more information, contact: Barry Russell—President—704-933-9092—brussell18@carolina.rr.com

Woodturning Classes to Restart!

The Creative Art Center in Cornelius (formerly the Icehouse in Davidson) wants to restart woodturning classes April 14th if there is sufficient registration for classes. Plans are to offer turning classes Mondays 9:00am and 6:30pm, Wednesdays 3:30pm and 6:30pm and Saturday mornings. Instructors will be David Kaylor, Don Olsen, Jim Miles. Also Jesse Wilkerson will offer a basic woodcarving class on Tuesdays at 6:30pm. More information from any of these club members or www.creativeartexchange.org. Sign up is required by March 1st.

NCW 2008 Demonstration Calendar

- * **January 12**—1pm—4pm—Chuck Cameron—Safety
- * **February 9**—1pm—4pm—NancyLynn Sharpless
 **Slideshow presentation and discussion on the history of AAW and
 about her father, Palmer Sharpless, the founder of AAW.**
- * **March 8**—10am—4pm—Alan Hollar
- * **April 12**—10am—4pm—Charles Farrar
- * **May 10**—1pm—4pm—Jim Staley—Ring Master demo at Camp Grimes
- * **June 14** 10am—4pm—Jim Miles—Stave Construction
- * **July 12**—Mike Mills
- * **August 9**—Sharon Doughtie
- * **September 13**—10am—4pm—Bill McInnis—Carving & Texturing
- * **October 11**—10am—4pm - Morris Schlesinger
- * **Nov 8**—TBD
- * **December 13**—Christmas Party

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.
- * Chuck Cameron (Hickory, NC)
828-381-2673
- * Gene Dampier (Fairview, NC)
828-296-0418.
- * Edgar Ingram (Statesville, NC)
704-876-4576.
- * David Kaylor (Davidson, NC)
704-892-8554.
- * Glenn Mace (Mocksville, NC)
336-751-4693.
- * Sam McDowell (Statesville, NC)
704-871-9801.
- * 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)

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

If you want to volunteer as a mentor,
please contact Barb Ward with your
information for the newsletter.



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Sam McDowell—Cherry Burl



Harold Lineberger—Wormy Persimmon



Jim Falowski—Poplar



Orville Shook—Plywood Christmas Ornaments



Gary Ritchie—Pocket Pens
Combination #1—Walnut, Cherry, Maple
Combination #2—Ebony, Maple, Rosewood



Jerry Ostrander—Osage Orange

Gallery Photos by Scott Caskey



Edgar Ingram—Wild Cherry Burl



Don Hefner—Spalted Ambrosia Maple



Sam McDowell—Hickory Firewood



Glenn Mace—Walnut Burl



Hal Holmstrom—Hickory



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

NEXT MEETING: February 9th—1:00—4:00 pm

visit us on the web at www.ncwoodturners.com