



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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Ron Mechling—Magnolia Sun Flower

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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

We've now had two meetings since I was honored to be selected as President of this Association. So far, I've been overwhelmed by the club's enthusiasm to be helpful. To date, set-up and clean-up have gone very smoothly....well maybe except for the audio-visual portion last meeting. Even then, Ric Erkes and Greg Crowder mustered to the call and got us up and running. Thanks to both.

Further, Barb Ward offered to donate a commercial grade coffee maker if we could find a volunteer to make coffee for our all day meetings. Max Schronce and Steve Hoyle stepped up to the plate! Once we teach them how to cook, we'll have hot coffee available during the morning portion of our meetings. Thanks guys! And, don't forget, Max and Steve are not paying for the treat! If you partake, please leave some money to cover the cost of coffee and filters.

In our Board meeting on 02/09/08, Mary expressed a need for a cabinet to store our growing collection of DVD's. Everett Tucker volunteered to come to her rescue. Thank you, Everett.

This is the type of cooperation that makes us a viable club. It seems that when members get active and help out, even more people get involved and the club becomes more enjoyable. Thanks to each of you who have stepped up to participate. For those who have not, why not give it a try? You just might find participation will give you a good feeling and more of a sense of being an active part of the club!

Thanks to each of you for making my job easier and more enjoyable.

Membership & Library News by Mary Bachand

Membership: ATTENTION! I have rearranged the name tag cabinet so your name tag may have a "new home". Its "house number" is on the back.

Our February meeting was a busy time with many paying their renewal memberships and 5 new members joining our group. (The library piles are another story!) Please welcome Richard Connelly of Hickory, Ronald Hoffman of Lawndale, Lamar Sherrill of Hiddenite, Dennis Shidal of Vale, and J. E. Sink of Lexington.

Our wonderful editor, Barb Ward, has again this year agreed to make new membership cards for everyone PLUS she will print the 2008 directory for each of you after I get it typed. Be sure to thank Barb for doing this.

Library: HELP! I need some ideas for items to buy for our library. (I have scanned both the Packard Woodworks and the Craft Supplies catalogs trying to find new items--we have them all!) DVDs seem to be popular as well as videos. There are plenty of books that I could buy but, as only one book was checked out in February, I don't feel that is where I should spend your money. I have started replacing older videos with DVDs when they are available.

Our guest speaker in February, Nancy Lynn Sharpless, gave us a beautiful book, The Fine Art of Wood, The Bohlen Collection.. I did order "Woodturning Projects with Rex and Kip" Volume 1 and Volume 2 and they have arrived.

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.

Program Notes—Alan Hollar—March 8, 2008 by Greg Crowder

He's Back!

Alan Hollar is making a return visit with us this time discussing things to do with burls and finish compatibility.

Alan Hollar has been turning wood on the lathe since 1986. He is self taught, being introduced to the medium when he needed to make replacement parts as a furniture restorer.

"Woodturning and carving allow the most intimate relationship with my materials. I aim to use technique to reveal and enhance what is hidden beneath the bark.

I saw a photo of a bowl in a magazine and thought it was pretty cool...it seemed to have the potential for fun in it. The lathe was also the only woodworking application that no one else in my family did (all were involved in the furniture industry), so there was no one's work to aspire to, and no intimidation!

Turning wood is different from all the other forms of woodworking, similar to playing a musical instrument. You put in hours of practice, days and years learning the craft; the certain sound of the cut, the way the shavings look, observing profiles...all to internalize the techniques so that you can produce pieces 'without thinking'.

Turning wood is also similar to language in that you have a vocabulary: the more that you use it the more comfortable you become, the more facile. You also become more creative and more expressive within the parameters of the medium.

I look for an elegance of line and form as these works happen...curves that transition sensibly and smoothly, sometimes including textures that complement or contrast a rugged rim or burl surface. My work is an intuitive process which is informed by years of experience at the lathe....However, some wood remains around the studio for many months as I walk by it and ideas germinate."

Alan Hollar's work is on display in several Southern Highland Guild galleries, The Art and Heritage Gallery at the Grove Arcade in Asheville, The Crossnore Gallery in Linville, NC, and the Morris Gallery in Sweetwater, Tn.



Demonstrator Review - NancyLynn Sharpless — February 9, 2008 by Evanna Brening



As we hear the story of the icon of woodturning, Palmer Sharpless, thru the memories of his daughter NancyLynn Sharpless we are transported thru woodturning history.

Palmer passed away December 4, 2002 after a battle with cancer. His lifetime was filled with creativity and a passion for the craft. NancyLynn provided NC Woodturners with a VHS tape **Palmer Sharpless - The Johnny Appleseed of Turning** which was viewed (the video will be available in the NC Woodturners library for rental).

Sharpless helped to organize the first woodturning symposium in Philadelphia and was also instrumental in the formation of the AAW. NancyLynn provided us with an article of the history of the AAW as you will see this featured later in the newsletter. Sharpless was a spindle turner, bowl maker and a production woodturner who taught woodworking to many students over the years. He was known for his thousands of turned honey dippers, ring rattles, and turned bowls to name a few. NancyLynn shared with us the progression of her father's turnings, as he learned the art of woodturning. His turnings went from filled screw holes in the bottom of a bowl; to a bottom foot that was just as

Demonstrator Review - NancyLynn Sharpless cont'd by Evanna Brening

appealing as the top of the bowl. This making the bottom of the bowl its own turning and just as eye catching as the tops. Sharpless' bowls were both functional and beautiful. The display of Sharpless' works throughout the years was a wonderful tribute and showed our members of the passion he taught to others and his love of woodturning.

NancyLynn followed her father's footsteps in teaching others of the joys of wood; she was a middle school shop teacher and a very skilled bead artist. She and her father collaborated together for several wood/bead pieces. We were very grateful to meet Palmer thru the eyes of his daughter, she kept the forum fast paced and entertaining. Thank you for keeping your fathers love of woodturning alive.



John C. Campbell Folk School — February 3-9, 2008 by Gary Ritchie

Wood turned Boxes with Art Clay Silver Accents

The Instructors, Frank Penta and Pam East offered a unique opportunity to further woodturning skills by taking a mixed-media approach, adding elegant lids embellished with fine-silver accents created from silver clay.

Pam started the week by teaching silver clay techniques that enabled students to prepare finials and medallions to use later in turned boxes adapted for the silver accents. The clay consists of finely ground silver mixed with binders and liquid that are eliminated in the firing process to leave fine-silver (99.9% pure silver). In the clay state, the silver can be molded, shaped, cut, stamped and manipulated much the same as any clay. Once dry, it is further shaped and refined by filing, carving, sanding and burnishing. Firing the medallions can be accomplished with just a torch, but the more sophisticated finials require a kiln. Final finishing is to individual taste either to a matte or mirror finish.

Frank finished the week with the students at the lathes creating turned boxes with lids suitable for the medallions and finials. Frank gave a lot of individual assistance but also included formal sessions beneficial to all. Of particular interest were Frank's insights into "really riding the bevel", "shooting the arrow" method of achieving a perfect contour and "following the profile" for tool grinding.

All and all, a great way to spend a week.



February Challenge Project—Turn a Square Edge Bowl

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.**

CHALLENGE PROJECT WINNER!



Ron Mechling—Padauk



Orville Shook—Maple & Padauk

	J	F
Dave Allen *		
Evanna Brening *		
Scott Caskey *		
Clarence Cogdell		
Greg Crowder		
Ric Erkes		
Steve Hoyle *		
Edgar Ingram *		
Robert Kirby		
Harold Lineberger *		
James Livingston *		
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		

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>



Jim Miles—Cedar



Max Schronce—Walnut



Evanna Brening—Cherry



Edgar Ingram—Maple

February Challenge Project—Turn a Square Edge Bowl



Scott Caskey—Purple Heart



Evanna Brening—Black Walnut



Jerry Ostrander—Walnut



Ken Phillips—Maple



January challenge

James Livingston



Steve Hoyle—Ash



Edgar Ingram—Walnut



Dave Allen—Cherry



Harold Lineberger—Ambrosia Maple



January challenge

Ric Erkes



Edgar Ingram—Pink Ivory



Jim Livingston—Maple



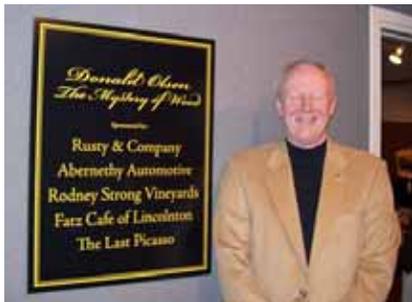
A few months back, I discussed a product called bloxygen. Its purpose is to lengthen the life of products that evaporate when oxygen is left in contact with the product. I use high gloss polyurethane on some of the pieces I turn and found that when I first open a can, the poly goes on easily and sometimes only 1 coat is necessary. Subsequent openings of the can (after a few weeks) result in uneven applications and the substance seems to have thickened slightly. This is due to the evaporation that takes place after the lid gets put back on the can and oxygen replaces the small amount of poly that I used. So after making some inquiries, I tried bloxygen. And now 2 months later, it seems like the product works as advertised. I'm only half way thru the quart can, but the results seem

much more consistent than they used to be. When I get my next quart, I plan to open and immediately pour the contents into separate small jars filled to the brim and only open as needed.

This is another method I discovered from another woodworker. The method I use for applying high gloss poly is

- Sand thru the incremental grits to at least 400.
- Apply a few coats of gel satin poly. This is easy. Use a paper towel and apply liberally and after about 2 minutes, wipe it off fully. This just seals the sanded surface and prepares it for the high gloss. Some may argue that this is not necessary (and they may be right) but this is what works for me. I also found that applying high gloss to a sanded surface results in an inconsistent look, as some of the areas the poly gets soaked into the wood and on other parts the poly remains glossy.
- With the piece on the lathe and the lathe turning as slow as possible, I fold a paper towel in a small wad and dip it in the poly about an inch and remove it until it just stops dripping. Then when its soaking wet, but not dripping, hold the paper towel on the lower side of the bowl gently moving to cover the entire piece. I let the piece continue to turn for another 2-3 minutes again...very slowly.
- I then take the piece off the lathe and place it in another room..away from the dusty area where I do my turning and sanding. This is to avoid dust settling on the piece as it dries.
- After about 2 days, I check to see if it needs it again and if it does, I repeat the gloss application as described above..

That's it for this months corner. As always, please email me with any comments/suggestions regarding the corner....Please..I'm running out of topics.. Ed Mackey (woodenforms@yahoo.com)



Donald Olsen *The Mystery of Wood*

February 16—March 6, 2008

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



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

NCW 2008 Demonstration Calendar

- * **January 12**—1pm—4pm—Chuck Cameron—Safety
- * **February 9**—1pm—4pm—NancyLynn Sharpless
- * **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.



NORTH CAROLINA WOODTURNER

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Orville Shook—Walnut



Ric Erkes—Maple Sun



Ken Bachand's Palmer Sharpless Turning

In 1993 Ken sent a "shop safety tip" to the AAW Journal. In January 1994 while Ken was in the hospital recovering from a heart attack and the surgery that followed, he received a package from AAW. Ken had won the "turning tip of the year" prize, which is the above turning.



Bob Holtje—Pecan



Orville Shook—Composite

Gallery Photos by Evanna Brening



Sam McDowell—Cherry Burl



Bob Holtje—Poplar



Joe Greene—Maple & Poplar Pens



Jim Falowski—Mimosa & Maple



Ric Erkes—Box Elder



Max Schronce—Cherry Burl



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: March 8th—10:00—4:00 pm

visit us on the web at www.ncwoodturners.com