



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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Sam McDowell—Cherry Burl

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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.



Gil Millsaps—Oak Burl

President's Message by John Melius

Our April meeting was another success, thanks to everyone's participation. Thank you!

Just a couple of reminders this month...our May meeting at Camp Grimes has all the "makings" of a great outing, thanks to the efforts of Jim Miles and all those who have agreed to help. I encourage each of you to come out and join the festivities. If you've not already registered, please do so by May 5th so the proper amount of food can be ordered. Contact Jim at 704/661-0600 or Jim9miles@aol.com.

The 22nd AAW Annual National Symposium is to be held from June 20-22, 2008 in Richmond VA. Jim Marstall, the Instant Gallery Committee Chairperson, has asked for help in the gallery from all turners in the area. If you are going to attend and can dedicate some time to helping, contact Jim at 540/872-4489 or jim@marstall.com.

Membership & Library News by Mary Bachand

Library: I'm not above begging but also I love to brag. I begged for a new library cabinet and now I can brag about Everett Tucker's creation. Please let Everett know how much his cabinet is appreciated as that will be the only pay that he gets. I tried to pay him from the rental money but he wouldn't take a penny.

It was really a sight to see Lee French, John's wife, "go to work" cleaning out the bottoms of the library cabinets. She found all sorts of "treasures"-enough to almost fill the trash barrel. She accomplished wonders which I should have done a long time ago.

Remember that May is a free month for library rentals. I have placed my order for 3 DVDs. They are "Projects Along the Woodturning Trail", a 2 DVD set by Alan Lacer, "Elegant Finials" by Cindy Drozda and "Bowl Turning" with Dale Stubbs.

Membership: Our April meeting was another fun day with woodturning friends. Our guest demonstrator, Charles Farrar of Concord, renewed his membership. I have "forgiven him" for not showing a slide of our Charles Farrar turning. It "resides" on our mantle next to our Rude Olsolnik candle stick holders.

Perhaps our motto should be "The Family Who Turn Together" as we had another father-son pair join our chapter. Dave (father) and David (son) Curry of Morganton are now part of our family. Welcome to All!

2008 AAW Symposium Instant Gallery—Volunteers Needed!

The 22nd Annual National AAW Symposium

Date: Friday June 20—Sunday June 22, 2008

Where: Greater Richmond Convention Center, Richmond, Virginia

More info: See www.woodturner.org for more details

Supporting an AAW Symposium is a regional affair. We need the help of all the clubs in and around Richmond, VA to put together a world-class event. Wondering how you can help out at the AAW Symposium and still make all the rotations and activities you want to attend? Consider volunteering to help at the *Instant Gallery!* Get the first look at new, innovative turnings as they get registered in the IG. Meet the turners and talk to them about their creations. Help the turners display their pieces for maximum impact and visibility. Work for as long as you want, whenever you, any time during the Symposium weekend. We especially need help during the Thursday registration period (2:30 pm to 7:00 pm) when nothing else is going on, but when most turners are submitting their pieces to the Instant Gallery.

If you can dedicate some time to helping make this IG the best ever,
please contact Jim Marstall at 540-872-4489 or e-mail him at jim@marstall.com



MAY 2008

North Carolina Woodturners

WHAT: The North Carolina Woodturners' Meeting and Picnic Including special turning and wood related outdoor programs

WHEN: May 10th, 1:00-7:00 pm

WHERE: Camp Grimes Boy Scout Camp
383 Vein Mountain Road
Highway 226 between Shelby and Marion NC
(mycampgrimes.org for directions)

WHO: Woodturners and their spouses are welcome to attend and participate in all of the programs

BRING:
Wood for sale/swap, Gallery Items, Monthly Challenge Pieces, and items to prepare you for the outdoor weather.

Sign up

At the meeting or contact Jim Miles by May 5th. There is a \$10.00 charge to cover meal and programs, pay at camp.

Jim Miles:
704-661-0600
Jim9miles@aol.com



Programs & Events

Bandsaw Mill- David Houser will bring his portable bandsaw mill to saw timber. We will have logs available to cut into bowl blanks and you can bring your own logs to be sawed.

Nature walk & Tree Identification- Camp Ranger Carl Curnutte and Russell Willis will lead a walk to identify trees suitable for woodturning and recognize indigenous plants and wildflowers.

Blacksmithing- Local Blacksmith, Gary Lester, will help participants make a simple tool during his demonstration on blacksmithing.

1850 Log Cabin Tour- Mike Hartje will give a tour of Camp Grimes' 1850 homesite, showing how life was during the era.

Basketry of Poplar Bark- Make your own Poplar bark basket in the Frontier Cabin area with Mike Hartje.

Lumberjack- Former professional lumberjack, Eddie Sandy, will display how the pro's compete in lumberjack sports with axes, crosscut saws, chainsaws, and tree climbing.

Chainsaw Techniques and Bowl Blank Cuttings- Scott Caskey will teach chain saw usage and help cut bowl blanks to take home.

Camping- Scott Caskey will lead the camp out Friday night. Full RV hookups, Rustic cabins, or tents are available-please contact Jim Miles if you are interested.

Wood Swap and Sale- Bring your own wood or blanks to sell or trade.

Other Events- Regular Monthly Instant Gallery, Challenge Project, and Raffle

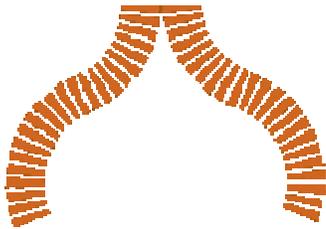
Cook out- Steaks and chicken will be grilled for dinner and served with all "the fixings." Please sign up to be included in the meal count.

Demonstrator Review - Charles Farrar by Evanna Brening

Charles Farrar has a motto that all turners should live by: "Wood is your canvas – do with it what inspires you."

Woodturning has changed so much within the last decade. The new wave of woodturning is not just turning a bowl, vessel, platter, etc. It's taking it to the next level. After turning that bowl, vessel, platter, etc. go the extra step. Carve it up, Cut it up, Texture it out, then add a splash.. Color, pigment, bronzing, gold leaving, anything to make it pop!

Charles Farrar gave a wonderful demo; the turners took away some great tips and some fresh ideas on the new wave of woodturning. I very much enjoyed listening to Charles; he is a self taught turner and believes there is more than one way to chip away the wood. He is a local turner and has been turning professionally since 1994.



Charles started his demonstration, the first turning of two, a "small piece of wood". However, he cut the wood in the dark morning hour and did not know how big his piece was till after chainsaw round. The ambrosia maple blank was a 30" x 24" open vessel with a natural edge prior to shaping.

He shapes the wood using the OGEE CURVE, keeping in mind a sensual line that is pleasing to the eye. An Ogee is a shape consisting of a concave arc flowing into a convex arc, so forming an S-shaped curve with vertical ends.

The first turning was to be a scalloped edge bowl. Charles prefers to use green wood for his scalloped pieces. Also, Charles normally tries to choose wood with little or no figure for his scalloped pieces. The wood with ornate/unusual figure can distract from the uniqueness of the scalloped wings of the piece.

Charles turned the piece while keeping the top few inches (about 3" – 4") very thick for later scalloping. Once the piece was shaped and hollowed, Charles drew his scalloped wing vision on the thick top of the piece. Then he took an angle grinder to grind away the excess material for the shape of the scalloped wings. The angle grinder leaves the wood in a rough state, Charles then uses various sanding methods to smooth out the wings to match the thickness of the body of the piece. The piece was to have a natural edge. Good tip to keep the bark on the wood – cutting the wood in the fall or winter is the best bet, if that does not work – CA will.



Charles' second turning was another ambrosia maple hollow vessel with small spout, this one a smaller piece about 8" x 10". Vessel shaping depends on how tall the piece is to be. The taller the vessel the stronger/wider the shoulder should be, the shorter the vessel the shoulder area should be more tapered; tapering it down to the bottom to form a continuous curve that is rounding or a more football shape. When determining the base to opening size remember the 1/3 theory, the opening of the piece should be 1/3 the size of the base or vice versa if using a small base with a large opening.

Demonstrator Review - Charles Farrar cont'd by Evanna Brening

Charles shaped the piece and explained his preferred method of hollowing is using the Lyle Jamison hollowing system. While he would normally keep his pieces thick for later texturing he did not hollow out this piece, he just shaped the outside then demonstrated his exterior texturing methods. Charles used a variable speed dremel rotary tool with many different cutting blades for the different textures. When texturing, start at the bottom and work your way up. After you get the final look of the texture, change the cutting tip to a sanding tip and clean up the cuts. Many of his textured pieces are then painted and/or bronzed. If the piece is to be black, Charles prefers the Marine Corp black leather dye followed by a fine mist of lacquer to seal in the color (and not to have the dye transfer when touched) – this he feels is the blackest of blacks.



Remember when texturing to keep it random to not have a “perfect” look – art is different and unique.

After the demonstration the club enjoyed a slide presentation showcasing dozens of pictures from previous works. Charles reviewed each slide, explaining each piece and asked for participation from the members of what could have been different to change and/or enhance the turnings.

Charles’ parting thought was an amusing one; “The difference between working in a shop and/or garage to working in a STUDIOan increase in about a \$1000 a turning.”

Turning a Cherry Burl by Sam McDowell

I turn a lot of cherry burls mainly because the result is so beautiful and they sell. The first thing to decide with a burl (as with any piece) is to determine the axis of rotation. This particular tree had burl all the way around it though not very thick.



I mounted it between centers using the pith as a starting point for the axis. The advantage of between centers at this point is your ability to make adjustments before you must commit to a face plate or chuck. Initial turning revealed three major voids would be in the final shape. This left three structural columns in the final walls of the vase. I first had to decide which end to be the bottom. Once that was done then I could move the top center point around a little to take the best advantage of the structure.



Remember Rule #1: Display the wood.

Next I did some preliminary roughing out and cut a flat on the bottom to mount



the faceplate. I chose the faceplate over a four jaw chuck because the overall length was going to 12+ inches. I used a 4in faceplate with 15-1 ½ #14 hex head screws (the largest that fit the holes in the plate). This put 1 inch of thread of each screw into the wood. You don't want this thing to vibrate or come off.

I then proceeded to work on the overall shape, keeping a close eye on where the structure was & was not sound. I worked the shape about 2/3 of the way down, leaving plenty of mass in the bottom to provide strength.

Turning a Cherry Burl by Sam McDowell cont'd

Hollowing begins with drilling a hole down the center as a place to start taking out wood. I use a 1 inch auger bit. It is easy to use and takes out a lot of wood. Take it easy, there is no rush. If you are too aggressive chips and heat can build up in the hole and lock the bit. Not good.



Now comes the careful part of hollowing. I work down about an inch at a time.



Start with the pilot hole and enlarge it out to the side wall. Make sure the wall is the thickness you want and as smooth as possible. Once you finish the upper part, you cannot go back and do touch up work. It is just too fragile. This is the part about "dig with a pick & smooth with a shovel". I use a ¼ inch boring bit for the bulk of wood removal, and then finish the wall with a flat spatula shaped scraper blade. My primary hollowing tool is a captive bar system similar to Lyle Jameson's. It can also be done with the "outrigger" style tool. Be aware that a 5/8 bar is good to about 6-7 inches deep before you get chatter; ¾" to about 10 inches and 1" is good to 12-14".

As each layer is taken out of the interior make sure that the wall is consistent in thickness (1/4-3/8") and each segment is SMOOTHLY blended to the last segment. If this is a very open piece, the inside will get as much attention as the outside. Also watch for cracks/loose areas as you go.



Tip: Fill small cracks with sanding dust (I use walnut because it is dark) then apply thin CA glue. The glue will swell the dust and lock the crack. The resulting seam looks like it belongs there.



When you get down about half way you can start to finish the outside shape, then match the inside. Be sure to leave enough wood in the bottom to make the piece stable. This is a trade off if the wood is green. Enough to balance the CG vs. too much = crack. If the wood is green put a sanding sealer or something to control the drying. Remember that the thinner the wall thickness the more dramatic the effects of warping.

Sanding and finishing will take longer than the cutting but the result is worth it.

- Sam

A pessimist, they say, sees a glass of water as being half empty;
An optimist sees the same glass as half full.
But a giving person sees a glass of water and starts
looking for someone who might be thirsty.

~ G. Donald Gale

April Challenge Project—Turn a Trivet

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!



Orville Shook—Maple



Max Schronce—Maple & Walnut

	J	F	M	A
Dave Allen *				
JT Barker				
Evanna Brening *				
Scott Caskey *				
Steve Hoyle *				
Edgar Ingram *				
Harold Lineberger *				
James Livingston *				
Sharon Lochaby				
Claude Lucas *				
Sam McDowell				
Ron Mechling *				
John Melius *				
Jim Miles *				
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>



Evanna Brening—Black Walnut



JT Barker—Lidded Vessel



JT Barker—Square Bowl

April Challenge Project—Turn a Trivet



Scott Caskey—Walnut



Ron Mechling—Padauk



John Melius—Ambrosia Maple



Harold Lineberger—Walnut



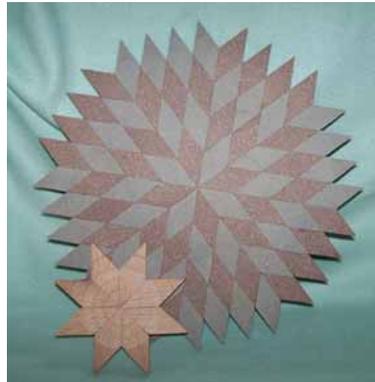
Edgar Ingram—Maple



Jerry Ostrander—Mahogany & Tile



Jim Livingston—PurpleHeart



Jim Miles—Trex & Oak



Dave Allen—Ambrosia Maple



January challenge



Steve Hoyle—Walnut



Claude Lucas—Cedar



JT Barker—Top



Starting out in woodturning can be quite an undertaking. There is lots of knowledge to gain and several skills to develop. This gaining of knowledge and skill development takes time. I've been turning since 2002 and I continue to learn and can definitely see that the turnings I do today, have improved over time.

Things to consider as a beginning woodturner

=====

The end result of woodturning is typically a nice clean shiny bowl, or a vase, or a toy, or simply an artistic piece. The process to get this final result, involves several steps. Basically, the final result had to be harvested, turned and then finished.

The tools required for this include:

- Chainsaw - If you purchase your wood, you can avoid this tool. There is a great article on the Internet at <http://www.wonderfulwood.com/>. Then select For Turners, then "Sawing a log for bowl blanks"
- Sharpening grinder. Turning tools need to be sharpened frequently. Sharpening skills take time to develop just like turning wood.
- Bandsaw - I'd categorize this as optional but a great option. I'd be lost without mine.
- Lathe- The one you purchase, should be in line with what you plan to turn. For example, if you plan to turn only small items, a mini may be just fine. If you plan to turn large items, you will have to choose a lathe with a larger swing.
- Dust collector - I did not make this an initial requirement when I started turning, but as soon as I realized how much I enjoyed this hobby, and the wet wood started to dry...it became obvious, this was not an option.
- Turning tools(gouges). Can't turn without tools..
- Accessories (eye protection, air compressor, sanding equipment, end grain sealer, broom, sharpening jigs).

Here are a few resources that I use for information as well as inspiration.

The Wood Central woodturning forum (<http://www.woodcentral.com/cgi-bin/turning.pl?index>) Q&A forum that covers just about every aspect of woodturning. It's quite active and, while I don't get a chance to use it very often, I have posted a few questions and get excellent responses usually within 1 day.

WOW

Stands for World of Woodturners and is a great resource for inspiration in that it has an unending supply of pictures and articles. The main website is <http://www.myfamily.com> You will need a sponsor to set it up for you. Email me and I'll be happy to assist.

Finally a few tips that I've found useful:

1- Get hands on instruction. Our club offers this at our meetings on occasion as well as publishing a list of mentors that are willing and happy to assist new folks. If you can spend an hour with an experienced turner, on a one on one basis, I guarantee it will be a worthwhile experience.

2-Take advantage of the books, videos and dvd's from the club's library.

As always, please send comments/suggestions..and if anything I've said is incorrect / misleading, etc..don't hesitate to let me know..

Ed Mackey
(woodenforms@yahoo.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—7pm—Camp Grimes Picnic—Great Fun & Food!
- * **June 14** 1pm—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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Vice President:
Greg Crowder (828) 874-6927

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Gary Ritchie (704) 482-8090

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Past President: Sam McDowell (704) 871-9801

Journal Editor: Barb Ward, 2103 Windermere Lane, Shelby, NC 28150
(704) 480-8931 bubsyward@carolina.rr.com
Internet: www.ncwoodturners.com



Harold Lineberger—Spalted Oak



Evanna Brening—Oak found in Florida dump!



Evanna Brening—Cherry & Black Walnut



Greg Crowder—Mallee Burl

Floating Balls of Saturn



Sam McDowell—Ambrosia Maple Burl



Edgar Ingram—Big Leaf Maple Burl



Sam McDowell—Norfolk Island Pine



Sam McDowell—Norfolk Island Pine



Joey Stevens—Walnut & Mahogany

Gallery Photos by Scott Caskey



Max Schronce—Ambrosia Maple



Jim Livingston—Norfolk Island Pine



Jerry Ostrander—Kwanzan Cherry



Joey Stevens—Oak, Walnut & Bloodwood



Evanna Brening—Spalted Citrus



Robert Nicks—Persimmon



Pat Allen—Various writing instruments



Evanna Brening—Eucalyptus 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: Camp Grimes—May 10th—1:00—7:00 pm

visit us on the web at www.ncwoodturners.com