

Palmetto Woodturner

The Newsletter of the Palmetto Woodturners
A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

Volume 5, Issue 4

Palmetto Woodturners © 2003

December 2003

President's Message



Apologizes are due the members of the Palmetto Woodturners from me as your President. Our last two meetings have been somewhat irregular, and we need to get back on track.

First, I would like to thank Tom Harvard for being willing to give such nice descriptions about what could be done to enhance our work. However, it has been brought to my attention that everyone may not desire to have their work critiqued. I agree with that and will not pursue that in the future. We will plan instead to develop a program that will focus on design and technique.

Second, I have not stressed that we afford our demonstrators the courtesy of a quiet, attentive audience. I was certainly part of the distraction this past time. In the future, we will be reminded to remain as quiet as possible during the presentation.

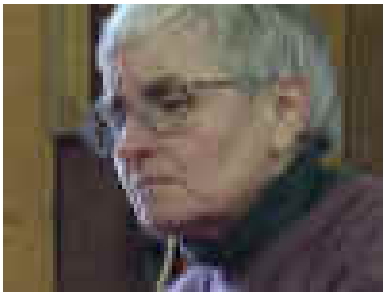
If you can think of or notice any other areas whereby our learning experience may be improved, do not hesitate to let any of us know what your ideas may be.

Also, do not forget to bring some holiday type "goodie" to share with the group the first Saturday in December (e.g., cookies, nuts, etc.)

Looking forward to the December meeting.

Ben

December Demonstrator – Lissi Oland



The Palmetto Woodturners will meet at 9:00 am on Saturday, December 6 at Mann Tool and Supply in West Columbia. All members are encouraged to bring a turning, tool, or jig for the instant gallery. We look forward to welcoming Lissi Oland, from Brasstown, NC as our demonstrator for December.

Lissi, in August 1961, at the age of 21, arrived at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC from Copenhagen, Denmark. George Bidstrup, the director of the Folk School at that time, and his wife Marguerite had signed her immigration papers and thus made it possible for her to start her life in America. She spent a year at the Folk School working and adjusting to this new life. During that year she was introduced to the lathe by the postmaster of Brasstown, Monroe Wilson, and on weekends when the Folk School shop was empty, she had the opportunity to pursue it further. In the fall of 1962 she started at Berea College, where 6 years later she graduated with a degree in German. During her last year there she had the

opportunity to take their Industrial arts course which she thoroughly enjoyed. Her next two years after Berea were spent at the University of Kentucky in their Dental Technology program where she graduated in 1970 with an associate degree in Dental Technology. In December 1970 she moved back to Brasstown to help take care of the Bidstrups who had both fallen ill. She established a crown and bridge dental lab in the basement of their home.

In January of 1974 Knud Øland arrived for a visit with the Bidstrups; he had a sabbatical year from Morsø Ungdoms School in Denmark. That year lasted until his death in September of 1991. Øland Craft was started and they were married in April of 1978. Their daughter Helen arrived in April of 1981. Knud was an exceptional and very creative turner and extremely prolific. Lissi did all the finishing, which felt very natural because of her background in the crown and bridge lab. Knud and she designed a line of turning tools with a removable high speed tool bit. The tool is very easy and safe to use and a beginner will get results readily.

The tools, the German made lathe König, and supplies grew out of demands as well as the turning workshops. Since 1991 she has continued the business. She is continuing the line of tools. Lissi teaches one or two day classes at the shop and she finds that turning is a very satisfactory outlet. "I turn pieces any where from 2" in diameter till 29." I use mostly local woods and have a great supply of very prettily spalted maple, which I favor. I am able to do all the work without help except from a large tractor, several different size chain saws, a dolly and an engine hoist. It is a very gratifying and exciting experience to follow the pieces along until they finally are finished. A great form of therapy.", so she says.

Lissi will demonstrate bowl turning using the Oland tools

November Demonstrator – Doug Barnes



Doug provided our members and guests with an entertaining and informative demonstration of his technique for turning segmented hollow vessels. Doug mounted a block between centers and cut a tenon on each end. Then, he refined the exterior shape of the vessel and parted it about 1/3 of the length from the top. Before the parting cut, he made a pencil mark to facilitate alignment of the grain when he reassembled the two segments.

The bottom segment of the vessel was mounted in a chuck and Doug began to hollow it, only to learn that the chuck would not hold for reasons unknown. Doug overcame this problem by switching to another chuck and despite his concerns, he successfully hollowed the bottom and turned a rabbet in the top edge.

The bottom portion was set aside and Doug bored a 3/8" hole through the center of the top segment blank. He mounted the top segment in the chuck, hollowed the top and began to refine the lip around the opening. Using CA glue, he rejoined the two segments, using the alignment marks to orient the grain.

Doug used a steel wire to burn a line where the two segments are joined and added three additional decorative lines to further disguise the location of the joint. He emphasized that the wire gets very hot and must be handled with care.

Detailing of the lip and base and sanding yielded the vessel shown to the right. The demonstration yielded a very attractive piece and good insight for the audience.



November Instant Gallery



Sam Brasher
800 YO Alligator Juniper
Spray Lacquer



Sam Brasher
American Beech
Spray Lacquer



Jim Brewton
Mesquite
Waterlox/Deft



Gary Dickey
Big Leaf Maple Burl
Deft



Jack Gould
Dogwood Bowl/Cherry,
Mahogany, Cocobolo,
Bradford Pear, Cedar,
Tulipwood, Ash, Poplar,
Chinaberry Eggs
Briwax



Enoch Harding
Maple finished with
Deft Spray Lacquer



Enoch Harding
Black Limba Cored
Deft Spray Lacquer



Steve Harrell
Magnolia
Watco/Mylands/Briwax



Steve Harrell
Maple Burl/Walnut
Watco/Mylands/Briwax



Tom Harvard
Purpleheart &
other woods
Various finishes



Ernest Lowry
3/8" Spindle Tools Hard-
wood Handles/HSS Drill
Blanks - Briwax
Sanding Sealer



Ernest Lowry
Thread Tools -
Maple/ Walnut Handles
Briwax Sanding Sealer/
Briwax Polish
& Briwax Polish



Michael Rabkin
Magnolia Core Demo
Oil Finish



Michael Rabkin
Oak
Friction Polish/Wax



Michael Rabkin
Oak



Gerald Starnes
Magnolia
Deft Spray Lacquer



Mike Weaver
Holly & Others
Woodturners Finish



Mike Weaver
Dogwood
Woodturners Finish

December Instant Gallery

If you haven't seen your name and a photo of one of your pieces in the last couple of Newsletters, it's time to bring something to the Instant Gallery table. Help your editor by completing the Instant Gallery form at the end of the newsletter for each piece you display. Additional forms will be available at the meeting.

Events of Interest

Mann Tool Holiday Open House – December 6, 2003

Our December meeting will coincide with the Mann Tool and Supply Holiday Open House. This sale event will feature factory representatives, new products, and great deals including 10% off tools and equipment throughout the store. Scott Ollis will be demonstrating for JET/Powermatic. Mann's will be open until 3:00 pm for the sale. Please park at the back of the parking lot since there will be lots of activity in the store while we are meeting.

Florida Woodturning Symposium – January 9-11, 2004

Third Annual Florida Woodturning Symposium will be held at the Lake Yale Baptist Convention Center near Eustis, FL. Featured demonstrators are Clay Foster, Alan Lacer, Andre Martel and Betty Scarpino. Call Judy Merkt-Jackman @ 941-379-6302 Web Site: <http://www.floridawoodturningsymposium.com>. Email: Judy Merkt-Jackman

Southern States IV – April 25-27, 2004

The Fourth Annual Southern States Woodturning Symposium will feature five simultaneous rotations --a total of 40 demonstrations--beginning at 1 p.m. Friday, April 25 and continuing through noon on Sunday, April 27, 2004. Make plans now to attend our southern regional symposium. This year's demonstrators will include Trent Bosch, Gary Sanders, Al Stirt and Binh Pho.

The symposium has expanded to fill the entire Georgia Mountains Conference Center to allow additional space for the trade show and Instant Gallery.

The symposium will be highlighted by a Saturday evening banquet and auction. An added highlight of this year's auction will be the awarding of 10 full scholarships to woodturning courses at John C. Campbell Folk School.

Brochures and registration forms are available in our club's library.

Door Prize Drawing

Members are encouraged to donate surplus tools and turning wood for the monthly door prize drawing.

Sources of Supply

Thanks to Jack Gould for the information that Forstner bit extensions are available from MLCS at a cost of \$8.95 each or \$6.95 each for two or more. You can call MSCS at 1-800-533-9298 or visit www.mlcswoodworking.com.

Thanks to Doug and Marsha Barnes for this tip. Flower Arrangement Cups similar to those in Tom Harvard's November Instant Gallery pieces are available from Bonnie Manufacturing & Sales Company. Plain 1 ½" diameter cups are \$25.20 per dozen and flanged cups are \$32.40 per dozen. Shipping is about \$5 per dozen. They also have round cups in larger sizes (up to 5 ¾") and other products. Call Raymond Hinkley at 800- 838-1747.

Membership

Welcome to the following new members.

Allen Evans
3716 Pavilion Drive
Martinez, Ga 30907
evans11@comcast.net
H: 706-650-1871
W: 706-863-3000

James Draffin
148 Highcrest Lane
Lexington SC, 29072
jdraffin@ac.rr.com
H: 803-359-0402
W: 803-436-4200 x4245

Welcome back returning member:

Sam Pate
1432 Indian Branch Rd.
Darlington, SC 29532
H: 843-393-5948
woodypate@msn.com

Member News

From **Michael Rabkin**: This is a lot like Monday Morning Quarter backing but it is still a good advice...If you are setting up a shop, it is likely that you want to turn wood and it is also likely you will want to get a lathe and turn wood as soon as possible...at least that is how it was for me...well not long after advancing to the advanced category of turning I had discovered to my chagrin the following:

1. Dust and shavings will eat you alive, why didn't I design a system for removal before I used every inch of shop space for machines that create dust and shavings...it is never too late...plumb a few large vacuum tubes here and there save up for a suction unit, stick it where the noise is subdued and you can still be ok.
2. The larger the lathe the better, the more power the better, and if you like to turn bowls or expect to turn bowls, well then you need a lathe that will be stable enough so that the truing and roughing time is tolerable even fun...the swing that you read in the specs have to be taken with a grain of salt the tool rest has to fit under the work and it eats into some of the advertised swing room....the additional advertisement of a drive area that swings out to increase bowl diameter capacity is suspect and the lathe is really not designed to turn along that axis and will become unstable. This is by no means to say that small and medium sized lathes are not good, some small projects like pens and stoppers, ornaments and such are done with great ease on the small machine and the

portability of these machines speak well for owning one...I am still trying to figure out how to move my Powermatic in and out of my shop when the weather is kind and the sun is shining, so far there is no solution..

3. If you already have a medium sized lathe and you want to turn large pieces, then find a way to weigh down the center of gravity by using some 2x12 lumber and sand bags or bricks ...you will not have to chase your lathe around the shop floor as much...also balance the legs by shimming the feet or using levelers...better yet are four very heavy duty pieces of rubber padding to self level the machine...this only works if there is sufficient weight to keep the machine earth bound.
4. Learn to use the basic turning tools first...you should be comfortable with a series of gouges for bowl as well as spindle turning...the two disciplines(bowl/spindle) are very different animals and some rules apply to both and some are very specific to one or the other,,,,learn to use a skew, learn to cut some beads and coves to see what a parting tool can do...there are lots of short cut tools on the market and you will not become a good turner by eliminating the basic things...no doubt you can make a nice carving with a short cut tool, but you will not learn much about wood grain and the nature of wood in general unless you see how the basic cutting tools perform...enough said about that...suffice it to say that you learn to spell and then to make words, and finally you write a sentence...with a little work you can spell " wood turning".
5. Learn to sharpening your tools keep them sharp...there are lots of ways to do this find a system that you are comfortable with...if it is an ordeal to sharpen you are in the wrong system or not using it well...there are times that free hand is preferable to jig held, especially if you are burning up 1/4 inch of steel to produce a new sharp area on your costly gouges.....It is not only important to have very sharp tools it is absolutely necessary...the most costly gouge is useless unless it is well shaped and sharp...but even misshape it will cut and be useful if it is sharp...dull tools just burnish wood, even damage wood, even scrapers should be sharp...try not to use a scraper as a default tool for not knowing how to use a gouge...the pleasure of long clean shavings will convince you of that....ask one of the veterans to show you how they hold a gouge, match their body position and you too will create piles of fluff instead of inhaling a ton of dust..
6. This is last but it ought to be first...SAFETY...first and foremost...that includes, inhaling dust, eye care, hand protection at times when the chips that come off the work are abrasive or the wood is hard and the dust and chips are hot...use a face protector when you are roughing a very large tree-blank, the eye protectors are not enough to keep you from harm...side protectors for your glasses are good as well, sometimes the dust will abrade your cornea even if it is dust in the air...wheels on the feet of your delta lathe are a no, no...The lathe should remain firmly on the ground and should not move when you are turning...Ear or hearing devices get a very short shrift..if you turn obsessively like me (bad grammar...should be "as I do")...well anyway, by the time you have been making noise for three hours non stop, you may not realize that there is damage to ones hearing, your getting irritable from the noise, and by the time you finish and get ready to feed the dog or break for a meal, you are tense enough to eat nails, so consider some ear plugs. TOOL REST...pretend it is a guide for where your fingers and hands belong...they belong behind it and usually against it with sufficient pressure to prevent those wonderful digits and flesh from getting caught between the turning blank and the rest itself...we all have a tendency to get the job done at the expense of or risk to our hands...the last tool mark needs smoothing and the angle of approach is risky, but what

the heck, you have not lost a finger yet....NOT YET, but trust me, when you see that finger tip sliced off you are in no doubt whatsoever that your judgment was impaired and in retrospect, it was all about haste and not having the patience to be careful....there is a whole table saw safety course I could do as well, since I lost a fingertip I have gained a respect for any and all machines that cut scrape, saw and rout...

Swap Shop

Charles Watson would still like to sell his Stihl 028S chainsaw, 18" bar, case, and extra chain. \$175. Contact him at watsoncb@dhec.sc.gov or 803-939-0765.

Jack Gould still wants to sell his General 160 Woodworking Lathe. If you've forgotten the specs on this fine tool, contact Jack at 803-359-3438 or at rgould@sc.rr.com.

John Porter is interested in selling a few wood working tools

1. 12-36 Jet lathe...asking \$350.00 Originally about \$550.00
2. Mobile base for the lathe ...will sale it with lathe for \$80.00 ...orig. about \$135.00.

If interested call John at 803-345-1283

Jack Gould would like to find someone in the chapter that has made a "heavy duty" boring bar, and associated cutters. He needs to add to my tool collection something of this type that can efficiently "hog out" these larger bowls and vases. If you can help, contact Jack at 803-359-3438 or at rgould@sc.rr.com.

Officers and Advisory Committee

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Southern States Representative:	Gary Dickey	803 755-9074	gdickey@sc.rr.com
Advisory Committee Members:	Jack Gould	803 359-3438	rgould@sc.rr.com
	John Porter	803 345-1283	tomtom4152@aol.com

Coming Attractions

Program Chairman Charles Watson has organized an impressive list of demonstrators for the next seven months.

January 3, 2004	Hal Simmons
February 7, 2004	Lorne Babb
March 6, 2004	Willard Baxter
April 3, 2004	Dave Hout
May 1, 2004	Gary Sanders
June 5, 2004	Nick Cook

Mark your calendars now, because you won't want to miss any of them.

Club Information

The Palmetto Woodturners meet on the first Saturday of each month at Mann Tool & Supply, 802 Chris Drive, West Columbia, SC. Chris Drive is the frontage road on the east side of I-26 between Highway 378 and Highway 1.

From I-26 westbound - Take exit 111B (US Route 1). Follow US 1 to the third light. Turn Left onto Leapheart Road. Turn Right at first light onto Chris Drive. Mann Tool is approximately 1/4 mile on the right.

From I-26 eastbound - Take exit 110 (Highway 378). Turn Left onto Route 378. Turn right at first traffic light onto Chris Drive, approximately 3/4 mile on left.

We host an instructional woodturning demonstration at each meeting and club members bring samples of their work for the monthly Instant Gallery exhibit. Prospective members and guests are always welcome.

Instant Gallery

Type of Piece _____
(Bowl, Stopper, etc.)

Wood(s) _____

Finish _____

Other Info _____
(Inlay, Technique, etc.)

Artist _____

Instant Gallery

Type of Piece _____
(Bowl, Stopper, etc.)

Wood(s) _____

Finish _____

Other Info _____
(Inlay, Technique, etc.)

Artist _____