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February 2007



Palmetto Woodturner

The Newsletter of the Palmetto Woodturners,
a Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners.



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Message from the President

This space is in the process of changing in content to include a variety of technical and informative articles written by volunteers from Palmetto Woodturners. The intent is to draw from the vast experience and interest of the members in our Club. We welcome your input for information you would like to see presented. Especially, we would be looking for additional volunteers to write articles. Let us hear from you about your thoughts and possibly schedule you for a month and topic. Thanks to Joey Vann for kicking this feature off with the following article.

Sam Brasher, President

Know Your Steels Before Buying Turning Tools

Joey Vann

Knowing your steels will help you know a) what to sharpen your tools with and b) how much you want to spend on your turning tools.

Not too long ago all tools were made just from high carbon steel. They were (and still are) easily sharpened to a razor edge, but you had to be careful not to overheat the tool during sharpening. (High carbon steel tools start getting soft at 425 degrees F -- that is a light straw color.)

High speed steel is sharpened easily on an aluminum oxide wheel. The temperatures at which the tools start to become soft are much higher. Depending on the steel, the temperatures are from 600 degrees F. to 1,100 degrees F. Turning the steels to a slight brown to blue will not reduce the hardness of the tool while grinding. I do not recommend turning tools to a brown or blue color because if you are turning the tools this hot during grinding, you need to dress your grinding wheel or reduce the pressure applied to the tool during sharpening.

M-2 steel tools maintain a much sharper edge for a longer time due to the alloys added to the steel. This steel is made to take high heat. To sharpen these tools you must use an SG ceramic grinding wheel.

The newest trend is titanium coated tools and powdered metal and carbide tip tools. The titanium tools are high speed tools coated with a thin coat of titanium. In most cases, wood turners always change the profile of the cutting edge to suit their taste. The coating is hard to grind off with aluminum oxide.

Cover Photo: Ben Pendarvis

Dates to Remember

February 2 – Hands on with Frank Penta – ticket holders only, please.

February 3 – Palmetto Woodturners Meeting – Platter turning demonstration by Frank Penta.

March 24 -- The Southern Piedmont Woodturners presents the second annual "A Day at the Lathe" featuring John Jordan, Lyle Jamieson, & Jamie Donaldson at the Historic Courthouse, 65 Union Street S., Concord, NC Email: Barry Russell 704-933-9092

April 27-29 – Southern States VII featuring Soren Berger, Bruce Bell, Dale Nish, and Mike Mahoney. www.southerstates.org

The best grinding wheel is the SG ceramic for titanium. The cutting tool must stay cool - excess heat will cause the plating to chip off causing a jagged cutting surface. The bevel of the tool loses its titanium coating on the first grind leaving only the base steel for the bevel. The titanium coating never grinds very smooth, and the tool is no better than its base metal.

The rage is powdered metal tools. Tool makers claim these tools can cut longer due to harder materials, but I have found the powdered metal tools do not grind as sharp as the high speed and M-2 steel tools.

The newest tools coming to market are the carbide tools. Tool makers advertise that carbide tools never need to be sharpened, but we know when a tool falls, it falls on the cutting edge. This causes the cutting edge to chip and shatter. Carbide is made to take a smooth and continuous compression cut. Carbide does not stand up very well to interrupted cuts with a lot of vibration - this causes the carbide to chip and break.

These tools are hard to sharpen due the fact you must use a green wheel or a silicon carbide grinding wheel. The best wheel is a slow turn diamond grinding wheel. These grinding wheels are very expensive, and you will also need a new grinder for this wheel. The most important aspect of carbide is the dust is carcinogenic. This dust gets into your lungs and never comes out.

In my opinion, high speed turning tools are best and cheapest to use. The very best are the M-2 tools. They wear longer due to the alloy make-up. They cost more to purchase, and the grind wheels cost more, but over all, they are best.

My final comment is -- wear your dust protection – all grinding dust is harmful.

February Meeting

The Palmetto Woodturners will meet on February 3 at 9:00 in the demonstration room at Mann Tool and Supply. Our February demonstrator will be Frank Penta. Frank is an excellent teacher and will demonstrate platters..

Green Wood Sealer

Jack Gould

The Anchorseal Green Wood Sealer has been received and transferred into one gallon cans, and will be ready for distribution to those members that signed up for the sealer at the last several meetings. Here are a few major points to keep in mind when members come to the February meeting.

- 1) Members will not need to bring any containers to get their sealer.
- 2) Cost of the sealer will be \$7.00/ gallon. (same as last year)
- 3) Bring a check to pay for your sealer. We'd rather not have any cash involved, and a check gives us a good "paper trail".
- 4) If you can't come to the meeting for your sealer, call a friend, and give him a check so he can pick up your order. We would like to distribute all of the sealer if at all possible.

Special thanks goes to Joey Vann for his efforts in obtaining the drum cradle and 55 one gal. Cans.

Also, thanks to John Harbin and Joey Vann for their 3 hours of assistance on Saturday, January 20th when we transferred the sealer to gallon cans

January Instant Gallery



Sam Brasher



Russ Dixon



Russ Dixon



Russ Dixon



Dick Fuller



Ken Gates



Ken Gates



Chuck Klemme



Chuck Klemme



Mike Rabkin



Mike Rabkin



Mike Rabkin



Mike Rabkin



Nelson Ray



Marcia Roof



Marcia Roof

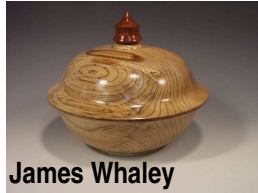


Gerald Starnes



James Whaley

January Instant Gallery



Membership

Welcome to our newest members:

Wanda Easterling
1364 Goffman Road
Eastover, SC 29044
billwilwan@bellsouth.net

Jeff Tiffin
526 Old Saybrook Dr.
Columbia, SC 29210
jefft@xenosolutions.com

Gary M. Siver
113 Meadow Crest Dr.
W. Columbia, SC 29172
stick4911@yahoo.com

Warren Larson
102 Meadowview Ct.
Columbia, SC 29169
WJEWilbs@juno.com

Jerry Carter
1756 Morninglo Lane
Columbia, SC 29223
gcarter@sc.rr.com

Suzanne Axland
6628 Windwan Dr.
Columbia, SC 29209
suzinsc@yahoo.com

Doug Fordham
99 King Charles Road
Columbia, SC 29209
DFordham@ppp.state.sc.us

Reminder

Club dues for 2007 were due on January 15. If you have not yet renewed, send your membership application and check for \$25 to Chuck Klemme, 2147 Rolling Hills Road, Ridgeway, SC 29130. A copy of the membership application was included in last month's newsletter which is available on our web site

www.palmettoewoodturners.org.

Chuck Klemme will email a membership roster to all members shortly after the February meeting.

Swap Shop

For Sale: Vicmarc VL300 longbed 50" between centers lathe, includes 4 prong drive center, a livecenter, knockout bar, Moffat light and receptacle, and a replacement belt. \$2200.

Vicmarc lathes are used by many of the top professionals around the world. A very good lathe and in good condition.

Also, for sale is a vacuum pump for \$100

If interested, please see Charles Watson at the February meeting or email at cbwatson@bellsouth.net

Jerry Daniels has gobs of pen blanks, exotic and domestic, that he would be willing to trade for some exotic wood bowl blanks. Contact Jerry at jdanielssr@sc.rr.com or see him at the February meeting.

Coming Attractions

We have some excellent demonstrators to look forward to this year. Mark your calendars now. May, July and September meetings are not on the first Saturday

Feb. 3	Frank Penta	Turning a platter
Mar. 3	Warren Carpenter	Implanting a shell in a bowl
Apr. 7	Joe Ruminski	Basic turning
May 12	Soren Berger	Small things
June 2	Mark Kauder	Segmented turnings
July 14	Jim Duxbury	Turning a kaleidoscope
Aug	TBA	
Sept 15	Dave Hout	Threaded Boxes
Oct 6	Andi Wolfe	TBA
Nov 3	TBA	
Dec 1	TBA	

A Day with Sam Maloof

Charlie Stephan

Director of Communications, Greenville Woodworkers Guild

This message provides additional information and some recent changes concerning the Greenville Woodworkers Guild presentation of [A Day With Sam Maloof](#). In my earlier message or possibly mailing I laid out all the specifics for the day long event. None of that has changed, with the exception of the phone number for purchasing tickets from The Greenville Little Theater. While the number listed will get to the Little Theater, they would prefer phone number [864-233-6238](#) be used when purchasing tickets. Additionally, that number will be manned from 10AM to 5PM daily.

Interest for tickets has been high and after the initial day of ticket sales through the Little Theater, all the preferred seating (front six rows) have been sold. The only general seating remains at a price of \$75.00 each. There are plenty of these seats available.

In addition to what was initially sent out, the follow two events will occur the day before the Sam Maloof presentation, March 23:

Greenville Woodworkers Guild Education Center (first class, fully equipped woodworking shop) will hold an Open House from 1PM to 5PM. The address is 701 Poinsett Hwy., Greenville, SC 29609. This event is free and open to anyone interested in touring our Education Center. No reservations are required, just drop in.

The evening of March 23, Bobby Hartness, our Program Chairman, and his wife will be hosting a reception at his shop/home address for Mr. and Mrs. Maloof. It will include a dinner and a chance for the attendees to meet Sam Maloof. The reception will begin at 6:30PM and the Hartness' address is 1720 Hudson Rd., Greer, SC 29650. The cost for this reception is \$100.00 a piece and reservations can be purchased through the Greenville Little Theater when purchasing tickets for the March 24 presentation. A personal evening with this icon is one that no one will forget.

This entire event is shaping up to be exceptional and one which should not be missed.

If you have any questions please contact me at this e-mail address or the Greenville Woodworkers Guild at www.greenvillewoodworkers.com.

Members in The News

Robert Lyon is currently exhibiting his recent tuned wood sculpture in the USC Faculty Exhibition at the McKissick Museum located on the USC horseshoe. The museum hours are Monday-Friday 8:30 – 5:00 and Saturdays 11-3. The exhibition runs through April 13.

You can also visit him at his new website: <http://web.mac.com/ROBERTFLYON>

Jack Gould's turnings are the subject of a two-page article in the February edition of Lake Murray Magazine.

Home Grown Expertise

If you don't have enough time to make all of the mistakes other woodturners have made, you're in luck. Many of our members are willing to share their skills through mentoring or private/group instruction.

For Mentoring:

Sam Brasher - (Projects) 803-897-3075 – sampathb@isp.com

Jemes Davis 803-730-0388 – jemesd1@yahoo.com

Jack Gould - (Mentoring for Dummies) – 803-359-3438 – rgould@sc.rr.com

Sam Pate – 843-393-5948

Michael Rabkin – 803-446-4900 – mfrdds@sc.rr.com

Joey Vann – 803-407-8002 – luthervann@bose.com

If you are a new member, and would like some assistance with a turning problem, the following are available to help you.

Sam Brasher - 803-897-3075 – sampathb@isp.com

Jack Gould – 803-359-3438 – rgould@sc.rr.com

Bill Lee – 803-345-9568

Charles Noller – 803-496-9563 – chaswinnoll50@earthlink.net

Marcia Roof – 803-791-4946 – mmroof@earthlink.net

Jim Rozelle – 706-855-5164 – jjrozy@comcast.net

Bradford Pear

Russ Dixon knows a tree service guy who has a load of Bradford Pear at his shop in Blythewood. Russ can't use it all and is willing to connect club members with the man who has all the wood.

If you are interested in going to Blythewood, contact Russ at northstar1@chestertel.com or (803) 337-8606

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 110 (Highway 378). Turn Right onto Highway 378 and Right at first light onto Chris Drive. Mann Tool is approximately 3/4 mile on the left.

From I-26 eastbound - Take exit 110 (Highway 378). Turn Left onto Route 378. Turn right at first traffic light (at the McDonalds) 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.

Members and guests are requested to park in the lot behind Mann's away from the loading dock.

Officers and Board of Directors

President	Sam Brasher	803-897-3075	sampatb@isp.com
Vice President	Joey Vann	803-407-8002	luther_vann@bose.com
Secretary/Treasurer	Chuck Klemme	803 337-8524	cklemme@truvista.net
Board of Directors	Gerald Starnes	803-794-0119	joenat56@aol.com
	Marcia Roof	803-791-4946	mmroof@earthlink.net
	James Whaley	803-270-5282	docdrywood@aol.com
	David Pietras	803 699-7348	tpietras@sc.rr.com

Club Management

Exhibitions Chairman	Ken Gates	803-796-0039	kgates2@sc.rr.com
Librarian	Nick Gore	803-735-1782	somethingsouthrn@bellsouth.net
Media Specialist:	David Pietras	803 699-7348	tpietras@sc.rr.com
Newsletter Editor	Steve Harrell	803-771-4089	SGHarrell@aol.com
Prize Coordinator	Jerry Daniels	803-731-1258	jdanielsr@sc.rr.com
Deputy	Joey Vann	803-407-8002	luther_vann@bose.com
Program Chairman:	Ben Pendarvis	803-534-3243	benpen465@aol.com
Southern States Representative			
Webmaster	Tim Taylor	803-808-0340	tpjehouse@alltel.net
Deputy	Wink Clark	803-957-7650	wink_clark@yahoo.com

Instant Gallery

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

Wood(s) _____

Finish _____

Other Info _____
(Inlay, Technique, etc.)

Artist _____

Instant Gallery

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**Palmetto Woodturners
Public Exhibition Submission**

Title/Name of Piece _____

Type of Piece _____

Wood(s) _____

Finish _____

Other Info _____

Artist _____

Contact Information for Exhibit Label _____

Requested Return Date _____

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Public Exhibition Submission**

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