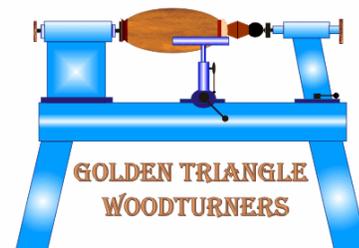


The Lathest News

Golden Triangle Woodturners

December 2007

Volume 5, Issue 12



A Chapter of the
American Association
of Woodturners



Inside this issue:

President's Platter	2
Bring Back	2
Canyon Studios update	2
January Sneak Peak	3
Turning Tips & Info	4
Calendar / Officers	5

We meet the first Monday of each
month at 7:00 pm

East Craft Room
The Center for Visual Arts
400 East Hickory
Denton, TX

(located at the corner of Bell
Avenue and Hickory)

Next meeting - December 3rd

Golden Triangle WoodTurners Holiday Party

Happy Holidays from the Golden Triangle Woodturners. Tis the time of season when we reflect on all the things we are thankful for and then spend time gathering with friends and families. As an organization we are no different. I am thankful for the camaraderie of the Woodturning club, where people with similar interests and varied backgrounds and ages can come together to learn from one another, enjoy each others company and give a little back to the community from time to time.

As we approach the holiday season, everyone's time becomes scheduled out more than usual, we spend time shopping, gathering with friends and us woodturners like to try to find time during this hectic season to make some Christmas items on the lathe (you know any excuse to make some shavings is good for us).

So at Decembers Woodturners meeting (Monday, Dec. 3rd), we will forgo the normal demonstration of a typical meeting and focus on the people and crafts of this wonderful club. We will have our holiday dinner and the club will be providing the meat and soft drinks. Everyone will be bringing a dish to pass and we will gather together for a wonderful dinner.

This year we will be having a gift exchange for anyone that wants to participate. Any one wishing to join in should bring in a gift (handmade or turned items are preferred) and when you drop off the gift, you will get a ticket good that can be exchanged for one of the other gifts to swap.

In addition to the gift exchange we will also be doing raffles for items to win at the meeting. Remember club members only are eligible for the raffle bring back prizes. This Christmas party will also be the meeting in which the Jet Mini Lathe will be given away. Bring back winners from this year and all raffle tickets sold at the Christmas meeting will all go back into the 'hopper' for a change at the Lathe.

Good luck to all and Happy Holidays.

president's platter

Happy Holidays to all. I wish each and everyone of you a Happy Holidays and a very safe New Year.

-- Pete Tkacs (2007 GTW President)

November Bring Back Winners

If you were one of the lucky bring back winners from the November meeting, please don't forget to bring back a turned item to be won by the next set of Bring Back winners. Thank you for your participation.

Please remember that one of the purposes of the bring back drawing is to raise money for the club and secondarily to collect pieces turned by others. To that end, we ask winners of bring backs back something you turned or crafted.

Canyon Studios

Canyon Studios has several openings in classes for 2008. I want to thank everyone that took classes in 2007 and hope that the education was everything that was hoped for. Several from our club have already signed up for more classes in 2008. We felt there was a need for a top quality Arts and Craft School in Texas and so far everyone has responded very well. Our classes are selling out very quickly. Thank you again.

In January we have one opening left in the Jimmy Clewes class on coloring and embellishments on the 6-7th. Also in

January, we have two openings in the Jimmy Clewes class on making lidded boxes. And the last January class with openings is the Jimmy Clewes class

making spheres, spirals, and off-center turning. These will be great fun as many of you know because of how entertaining and how great of an instructor Jimmy is.

In March we have two openings in Jimmy's class on tool techniques March 14-15th. This is the best class I have ever seen for the beginning turner. You can improve your skills remarkably no matter how experienced or inexperienced you are. Also in March Jimmy has one opening left in the design and shapes and aesthetics class. This is a class to perfect your tooling and make two incredible pieces!

Also in March is a real treat for those of you that went to the National AAW Symposium. We have Al Stirt doing two classes at the end of the month. If you want to really turn some decorative pieces and want to add carving and colorings to your pieces, look at these classes on the 28-29, and 30-31st.

There are other classes later in the year. Please check out our website www.canyonstudios.org.

Gene Colley

Editorial Note:

We are lucky to have a local facility where world renowned turners are available for small class, hands on instruction. There are only a few of these types of schools around the country and to have one in our back yard is a great resource for anyone wanting to deepen their skills as a woodturner.

January Meeting Update

January's meeting will feature instruction from Jimmy Clewes. The topic has not yet been finalized but there is discussion about possibly doing metal spinning. For those of you that were able to attend the Metal Spinning demonstration at SWAT in 2006, you will recall just how interesting it was to think you can make metal bowls on your lathe without much modifications to your standard setup for woodturning.

A Biography on Jimmy Clewes:

Jimmy is not your ordinary Woodturner. Upon a first meeting one would think of him as a renegade, a free thinker and not within the stereotypical image of a woodturner. His charming British style, unending wit, creative mind and magnetic personality are only some of the attributes that make him popular in the woodturning demonstration circuit.

Jimmy is on the Register of Professional Woodturners in the United Kingdom and has over 20 years of experience in woodturning and woodworking. The demand for his services as a freelance demonstrator and tutor takes him all across the United Kingdom, Europe, the Middle East the United States and Canada and as far away as New Zealand and the Falkland Islands.

It was not long after leaving school at the age of 16, Jimmy attained an apprenticeship in engineering and decided to further his studies by attending Manchester Polytechnic. He received a 2:1 Honours Degree with special emphasis on learning 3-Dimensional Design. With that focus, he began to specialize in designing and making furniture which was influenced by Japanese tools and design.

It was during his time in college that his interest in woodturning was rekindled. The combination of his college education, his previous experience as a tree surgeon, his limitless imagination and his professional skills was a perfect fit for Jimmy to pursue his creative abilities as a woodturner and to take that ability to the next level.

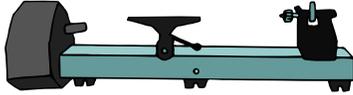
When asked what drives him, he shares, "My energy comes from those around me. When I can stir the creativity of one's mind, that, for me is very satisfying. As with any art form, expression is only as limited as one's mind and I want to 'raise the bar' and create an awareness of the art form that has been virtually unknown to most people."

Sometimes Jimmy can't believe that he gets paid to do what he loves. If you can't find Jimmy in his workshop at home, you will find him writing articles for Woodturner magazine, spending time with his family and, being an avid outdoorsman, spending time fishing and hunting. "Living in the country allows me the opportunity to spend time with nature where I can clear my mind and let my imagination inspire my next project."

Jimmy is the first to acknowledge that personal tutelage is by the far the best way to learn. However, since that is not always possible, in 2003 he produced the critically-acclaimed DVD Turnaround with Jimmy Clewes which sold thousands of copies around the world. The new Turn it On, and Turn it up with Jimmy Clewes DVD series incorporates a range of new projects and some fascinating extra features, from technical tips to a special trips in Other countries.

Visit his website www.jimmyclewes.com

Turning Tips & Info



A Pin Chuck to Hold Bottle Stopper Blanks While Turning

When turning very hard wood, a minor catch would often break the wooden dowel when I was turning bottle stoppers. I solved this problem with a home made pin chuck. (See Figure 1.) I took a piece of 3/8 inch mild steel rod about 2 inches long and filed a flat about one inch long that was deep enough that a small nail laid on the flat was just as high as the un-filed portion. I cut the point and head from the nail and cut it to fit the length of the filed portion. I chucked the round end in either my Nova Chuck or my Jacobs Chuck, laid the nail (pin) on the flat area of the 3/8" rod, and slipped on the pre-drilled stopper blank. Bring up the tailstock to lightly support the blank. Turn on the lathe and turn the blank. That 3/8" mild steel will not break. The outside is turned concentric to the hole and you have a very nice bottle stopper knob ready to assemble to the dowel and cork. Not all of my stoppers were turned from hard, exotic woods. On softer woods, the pin will dig into the blank and allow the blank to wobble a bit, but with softer woods, the wooden dowel doesn't break so the pin chuck isn't needed.

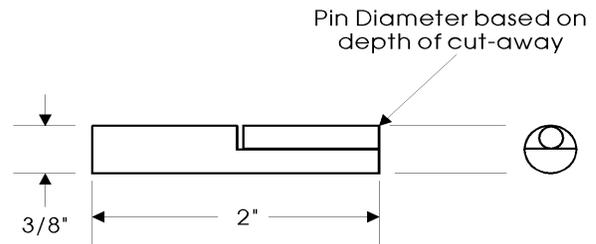


Figure 1. Drawing of Pin Chuck.
By Fred Holder

Various Other Tips

When turning very small items between centres, I used to find that my live centre sometimes penetrated too far into the end grain of the timber. I found that if you insert a very small flat washer (4/40 UNC or the like) over the end of the centre it will only allow a minimum penetration, will still centre and the washer applies ample pressure on the end of the timber.

Still on the subject of live centres. I found on occasions that I wanted to apply pressure to a work piece, say the base of a bowl when the inside is finished and it is mounted in a jamb chuck, without marking the timber. I put a plastic or neoprene cup, of the type used on tubular steel furniture legs to protect your floors, over the point of the centre. If you use a white or light coloured cup it will allow sufficient pressure and will not mark the surface in any way.

Submitted by: Dave Barber

Calendar

December 3	Monthly Holiday Party at Greater Denton Arts Council, 7:00pm.
December 18	Monthly Board Meeting, 7:00pm. All members welcome to attend.
January 7	Monthly Demonstration at Greater Denton Arts Council, 7:00pm.

Officers

President:	Pete Tkacs (940) 271-4728
Vice President:	John Solberg (940) 387-3089
Treasurer:	Chris Morgan (972) 977-8705
Secretary and SWAT Representative:	Gil Lhotka (940) 898-9925
Newsletter Editor:	Gil Lhotka (940) 898-9925
Membership Chairman and Demonstrator Selection:	John Solberg (940) 387-3089
Activities Chairman:	Eddie Charba (940) 455-5055
Immediate Past President:	Gene Colley (940) 241-2331