

Merry Christmas



Turner's Talk

Bob Speier, Editor

December 2008



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Something We Should Think About

Consider the Earth *An Editorial by Joan Kelly*

As turners, many of us enjoy receiving "free" wood. We find it on the curb or friends inform us of trees that are being taken down due to overgrowth or disease. Some turners even take a vow to turn only salvage rather than cut trees for the purpose of creating our craft. This is one step toward a world view that includes conscientious choices to be good stewards of the earth. Another choice recently adopted by the MSWG is to offer a recycling bin for the bottles and cans we empty during our meetings. It takes no extra effort to simply deposit these containers into the bin rather than the garbage. How easy can it get?

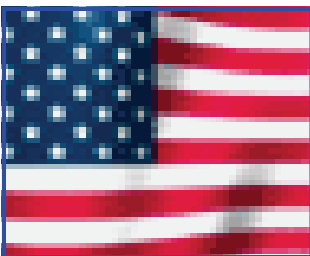
Recently I received a powerful document containing photos and facts about the environmental impact of plastic grocery/shopping bags. The data is overwhelming: these things are BAD. Produced from petroleum products, plastic bags further deplete the world's oil supply. About 1% are recycled, but recycling bags costs much

more than producing them from scratch. The bags do degrade, but they photo degrade, breaking into smaller, more toxic petro-polymers which can then contaminate soil and water. Huge quantities of bags are dumped into our oceans where they kill all sorts of species of ocean life. The bags wash ashore where they wreak havoc on bird and animal life. Plastic bags have been found on shores in the Arctic Circle and in the Falkland Islands.

What can we do about these grim statistics? Here's another no-brainer: make a New Year's resolution to use cloth bags. Sure, you have to think ahead and take some bags with you when you go out. Many countries have banned plastic bags or levied taxes on their use. China banned bags and is saving 37 million barrels of oil per year as a result. Ireland taxes bags and as a consequence consumption has decreased by 90%. What about us?

Please take the opportunity to look at this file.....

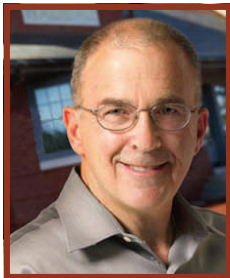
http://midsouthwoodturners.com/resources/dangers_plastic_bags.pdf



The Mid South Woodturners Guild is a proud chapter of the
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS



President's Corner
By Larry Sefton



Our November meeting was great with 48 attendees and \$118 in raffle donations. A big thank you to William (Bill) Siler for his thin wall square bowl demonstration and to each of you that participated in the instant gallery.

Christmas tree ornament contest and challenge. For the December 20th meeting please make a “new” Christmas ornament for the MSWG Christmas ornament **contest**. We will have a general membership choice award. The **challenge** is to bring an extra wrapped ornament to present to your spouse or a guest as a way we can share our craft and our appreciation for their support and for putting up with all the mess we generate.

I would like to encourage each of you on the following 2009 Challenge Projects:

- January - bottle stoppers, pens, napkin rings, or flower holders (craft sale type items)
- February - texturing and carving
- March - multi-center or offset turning
- April - anything you learned from the John Jordan demonstration
- May - natural edge bowl
- June - lidded vessels
- July - collaborative
- August - bowl (but not just any bowl -- make it “special” and tell us why!)
- September - toothpick holder or pen/pencil holder.
- October - light weight item
- November - turning form crotch wood

- December - Christmas ornament contest

Reminder; you should also be working on your submission for consideration as part of the 2009 selection process for the Christian Brothers University’s MSWG permanent collection. As a reminder:

**“ANNUAL ADDITIONS
TO THE COLLECTION**

Further donations to the collection will be made on an annual basis. Again, the board will appoint a jury of three people, striving to include one member who is outside of the guild membership, but who has ties to the art community. This jury (year two and beyond) will select 1-3 pieces to add to the collection. The members of this jury will be ineligible to submit their own work. Furthermore, members who have had work accepted as annual added donations will be ineligible to submit work the following year.”

Don’t forget - mark your calendars now for the December 20 general meeting, gift exchange, and potluck ~ a good time (and good food) awaits!

***MSWG
Board of Directors
for 2008***

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <u>President</u> Larry Sefton | <u>Board Members</u> Rick Gillespie Bill McMillen |
| <u>First V.P.</u> Dennis Paullus | <u>Webmaster</u> Trey Campbell |
| <u>Secretary</u> Don Wilcut | <u>Newsletter Editor</u> Bob Speier |
| <u>Treasurer</u> Matt Garner | |

MSWG MEETING MINUTES
November 22nd, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 0900 on this date by Larry Sefton, President of the Guild.

He welcomed all members and the two visitors to the meeting.

He congratulated Sandi Speier on being appointed to the AAW Board.

He reminded the members of the shop tour of Matt Garner's shop/studio after the meeting.

Larry told of his and Bob's trip to the first-ever Segmented Turning Symposium held at the Marc Adams School of woodworking located in Indianapolis, IN. He expounded on the video setup used at the symposium, two cameras and two 46" flat panel monitors.

He talked about Google "Sketch-up" a free 3D CAD first class and free program.

Larry announced that the piece of Wenge, donated by Craig Lumber, was turned by Joan Kelly and the piece would be returned to the lumber company for their display.

Elections: There are four (4) two-year director openings for 2009-2010, Positions currently held by Bill McMillen, Matt Garner, Larry Sefton, and Don Wilcut

Larry announced that we would be voting for five (5) because Joseph Voda as recently resigned due to work and the fifth position will complete the remainder of his term (ends Dec 2009)

Nominees for the positions are: Bill McMillen, Matt Garner, Bob Speier, Rick Stone, Nancy Boatwright, and Larry Marley.

The members were asked by **Don Wilcut, Secretary**, if any had questions regarding the Club Minutes in the newsletter and they did not. The minutes were approved by the attendees.

Matt Garner, Treasurer, Gave the

financial report: Education Fund \$1203.74 and General Fund balance of \$1692.07.

Rick Gillespie, Board member, commented on some of the items in the raffle and on buying raffle tickets.

Bill McMillen, Board member reported that we had two new CD's in the library. They are Volume One and Two on Segmented turning by Malcolm Tibbetts.

Dennis Paullus, Vice President, discussed the upcoming demonstrations.

December 20, 2008-Christmas Party with members bringing food, (pot luck). Club will furnish the meat. We will have instant gallery-show and tell and bring your newest Christmas turning. There will be a gift exchange, woodturning, tools etc.

To benefit the club's education fund, **Dennis** will be auctioning off the Mid-South Perspective bowls. Bring lots of money,

January 24 2009-Jerry Fairburn, Terry Reynolds and Dennis Paullus will be doing embellishments and carving.

February 28, 2009-Joan Kelly will be doing offset turning.

March 28, 2009- John Jordan will be doing a one day demonstration for the club. This demonstration will be free to club members

Bill gave an excellent and informative demonstration enjoyed by all. Most will be looking forward to his next presentation.

The election results were as follows: Nancy Boatwright, Matt Garner, Bill McMillen, Bob Speier, and Rick Stone

Submitted By:

Don Wilcut, Secretary

MSWG Christmas Party

Come One Come All Same Time, Same Place December 20th

Bring something for the Brunch Buffet. The Board will be providing two main entrées. In the past this has been the spectacular event of the party. Don't forget the Presidents Challenge of a Christmas Ornament, a wrapped gift if you want to participate in the gift exchange.

This a great time to meet and greet the better halves of ourselves. You'll meet the 2009 Board Members and told of the positions they'll hold. Have a chance to participate in the Memphis Prospective Rice Bowl auction. And just have a great time as we've had in the past. Please don't miss this joyous time to celebrate the Holiday Season.

*Need to find a tool or wood,
click on "Helpful Links"
to find your source
[Helpful Links](#)*



Just a little Humor

UPCOMING EVENTS

One day God was looking down at Earth and saw all of the rascally behavior that was going on. So he called one of His angels and sent the angel to Earth for a time.

When he returned, he told God, 'Yes, it is bad on Earth; 95% are misbehaving and only 5 % a r e n o t .

God thought for a moment and said, 'Maybe I had better send down a second angel to get a n o t h e r o p i n i o n . '

So God called another angel and sent him to Earth for a t i m e .

When the angel returned he went to God and said, 'Yes, it's true. The Earth is in decline; 95% are misbehaving, but 5% a r e b e i n g g o o d . '

God was not pleased. So He decided to e-mail the 5% that were good, because he wanted to encourage them, and give them a little something to help them keep going.



Do you know what the e-mail said?

Okay, I was just wondering, 'cause I didn't get one either.

- **December 20th**
Christmas Party
The Woodworking Show / Nashville
<http://cms.thewoodworkingshows.com/cms/Shows/NashvilleTNDec1214/tabid/84/Default.aspx>

2009

- **January 9-11**
Florida Woodturning Symposium
<http://www.floridawoodturningsymposium.com/>
- **January 24th**
Jerry Fairburn, Terry Reynolds and Dennis Paullus showing the process of embellishing Turned object.
- **February 28th**
Joan Kelly demonstrating multi access turning
- **23rd & 24th**
TAW Symposium in Nashville
<http://www.tnwoodturners.org/symposium.html>
- **March 28th**
JOHN JORDAN one day demo
“FREE FOR MEMBERS”
- **May**
Utah Woodturning Symposium
- **June**
AAW Symposium, Albuquerque, NM

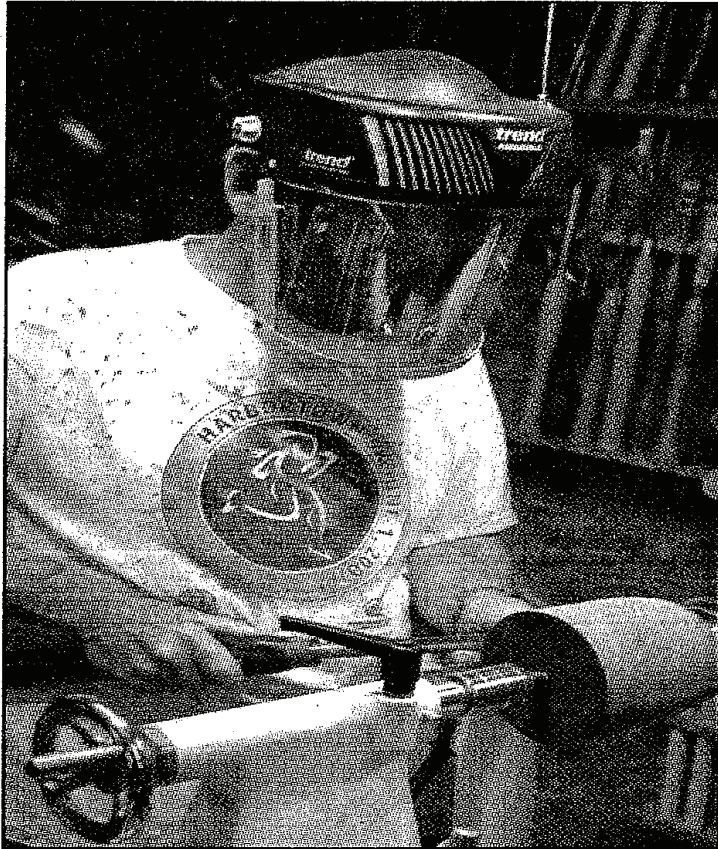
Local woodturner wins online competition

BY MICHAEL WARD

michael@colliervilleherald.net

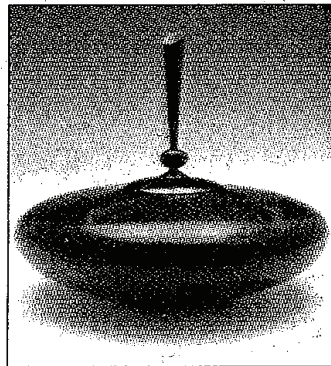
Woodturning was not something Keith Burns had much interest in when he began working with wood in the mid-1990s. Now, the skill has made him a prize winner.

Burns, 60, came to Collierville in 1986 from Memphis' Whitehaven area. Originally he built furniture as a hobby, he said, and never did much woodturning with a cheap lathe he had purchased to hold the wood in place and turn it for a cutting tool.



Keith Burns recently won first place in the turned-wood category in the Art in the Round Contest hosted by beautifulbowls.com. Burns received a \$500 prize for his winning piece, a Macassar ebony hollow form.

*Courtesy of
Keith Burns*



His reason for giving woodturning another shot around five years ago is pretty simple: "I ran out of furniture to build," he said. "I've always had an artistic outlet of some type. Woodturning is addictive once you get into it. It's hard to give it up."

Burns said he decided to join the Mid-South Woodturners Guild, which meets once a month in Bartlett. He also began searching online forums to pick up tips from other people while teaching himself how to turn.

On his fourth lathe in six years, Burns said he has work in many private collections across the country and even had a man from Hong Kong buy one of his pieces.

"That was pretty exciting," he said.

A year-and-a-half ago, the guild contributed approximately 50 pieces of work for an art show at Christian Brothers University in Memphis, with the group later donating eight pieces of work to the university – one of which belonged to Burns – for a permanent exhibit.

Earlier in the year, Burns was emailed about the Art in the Round Contest, sponsored by beautifulbowls.com. The organization was seeking original vessel-form entries such as bowls, urns, cups and mugs. At first, he was hesitant to enter.

"I didn't know what it was really about," he said.

Deciding to give it a try, Burns submitted three pieces to be juried online by visitors to artintheroundcontest.com. On Nov. 18, Burns said he found out he won the \$500 prize for first place in the turned-wood category for his hollow-form piece made from Macassar ebony wood from Indonesia.

With the first-place finish, he also qualifies for the "Best in Show" prize of \$3,000, which will be given out Sunday.

"I thought, 'you've got to be kidding,'" Burns said of his reaction when he learned he won.

The win, however, isn't turning Burns' hobby into a money-making venture. The artisan said he never makes a piece with the intent to sell it. If he did that, he said, it would become a job and would not be fun anymore.

"Truly, I don't do it for the money," he said. "If I had to do it for a living, I would be in deep trouble."

He admitted, however, that selling a piece of his work does bring him a special satisfaction.

"When you sell a piece, it's a rush," he said.

To view or purchase Burns' work, visit flyingcurls.com. For more information on the Art in the Round contest, visit artintheroundcontest.com.

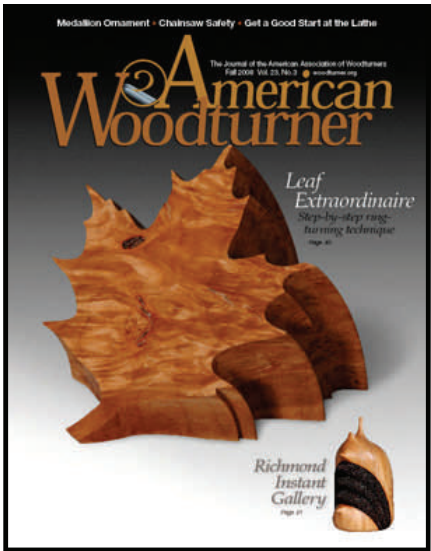
Club Dues in December

Membership renewals began in November as always. Be sure to bring your “cash, check or money order” so we can take care of this privilege as soon as possible.

Classifieds

Got something to sell, it can go here

*AAW Fall 2008 Journal
Join Now!*



Tips & Helpful Ideas

I was looking back at previous newsletters and ran across these items that were offered in the Dec. issue. In trying to instill in our members that safety is as important as having the right tools I'd like to remind you all of these great items offered by <http://www.griotsgarage.com/>. I



spoke to the customer service dept of Griots Garage about the fire extinguisher and asked them how much area this unit covered. I was told it has a ten foot diameter. Put one over your finishing area or work table and protect your shop from disaster. I'm

also told by an expert that the rag can will keep soiled rags from smoldering. It's also recommended to have a galvanized can outside and away from your shop to hold soil rags. Just a few thoughts.



The Fire Extinguisher retails for \$149 and the can \$69. If you call and order before the 23rd I believe you can

get a 15% discount. For fair deal for the protection you get.

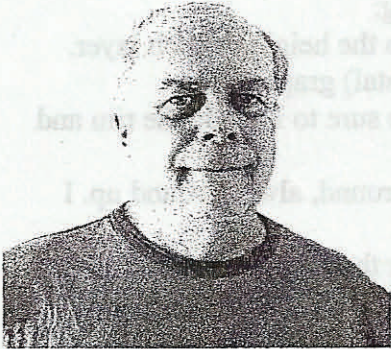
1 800 345-5789



For those that like to make their own tools, check out this website, <http://www.aroundthewoods.com/articulated.shtml>

Getting to know the “Pro’s”

Larry & I had the pleasure of meeting and dining with Bill at the First Annual Segmented Symposium in Indianapolis. This man is a consummate open segmented turner and works in a scale you wouldn’t believe. Meet Bill Smith.



Bill Smith Page 1 of 4

I have been involved in segmented woodturning since 1993 and open segmented turning since 1996. I am primarily self-taught having acquired an interest in turning as a hobby. I developed the system I am demonstrating after seeing a turning made by Yosh Sugiyama, the originator of the open segment concept. I first demonstrated my system at the 1999 Tacoma symposium. Since that time many turners, both beginners and experts, have successfully created open segmented turnings using my system. In 2002 I authored the book *Segmented Woodturning* published by Schiffer Publishing Ltd. To make the system available to turners who missed my Tacoma demonstration.

I reside in a rural area of SE Pennsylvania with Lynn, my wife of 35 years. I am a member of Lehigh Valley Woodturners and a board member of Bucks Woodturners and I am on the steering committee for the Echo Lake Collaborative Conferences. I retired early in 2004 to spend more time on woodturning and my other hobbies of hiking, photography and astronomy. If you have questions please email me at wsmith99@gmail.com and be sure to visit my web site at www.smithart.us



Happy Turning !