



Mike Maffitt: Editor



Keep Bob Smith in your prayers. He will have quadruple bypass surgery on Thursday the 9th of August.

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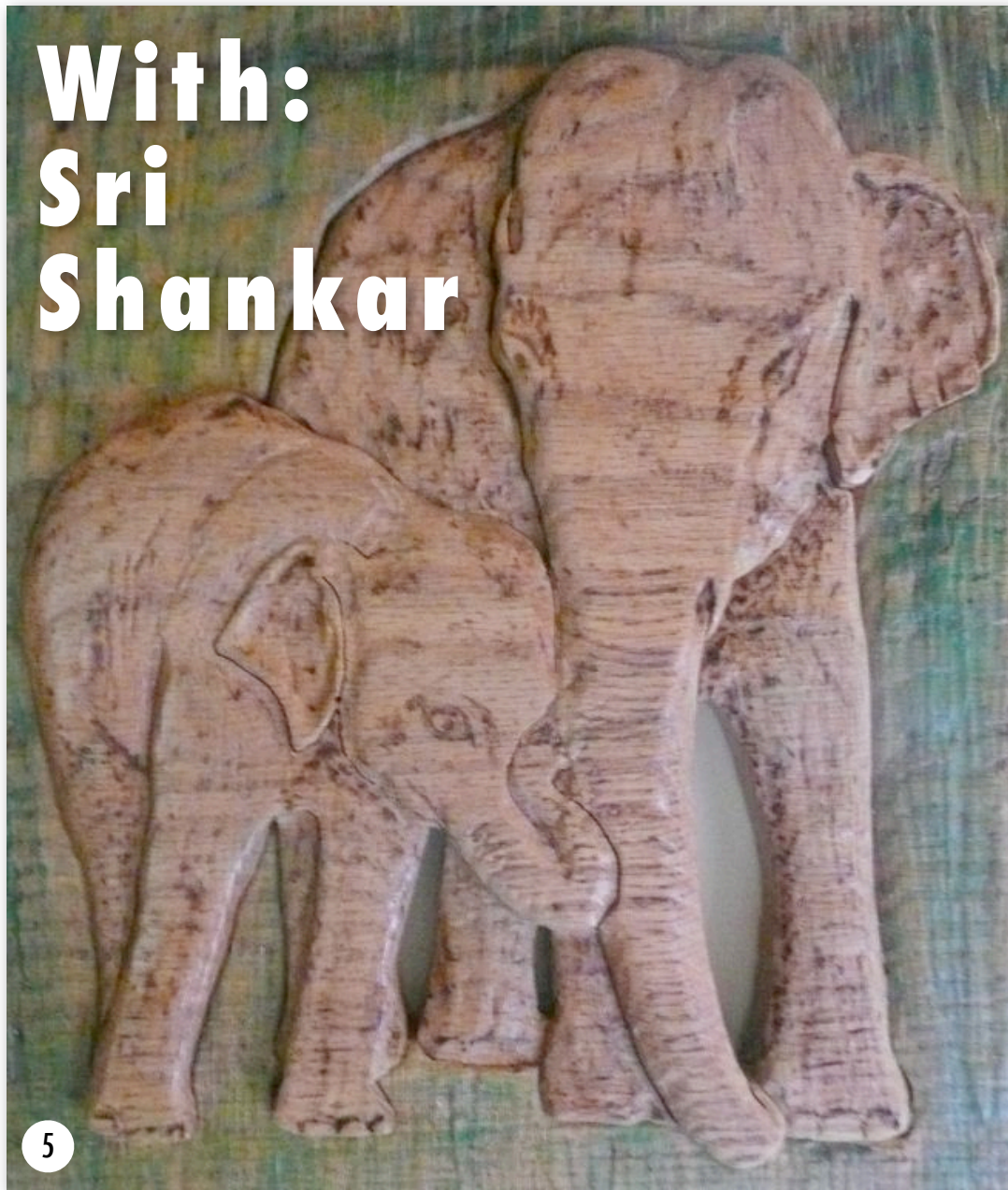
Cover Photo:  
African Mahogany 3/4 size football  
and stand with laser etched logo by  
Cecil Bowers.

**FEATURES IN THIS ISSUE**

- Page 03 - SHOP TALK: SRI SHANKAR**
- Page 06 - WOOD SPIN: HONEY LOCUST**
- Page 08 - PRESIDENT'S CORNER**
- Page 09 - FOR SALE**
- Page 10 - JULY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**
- Page 11 - A LITTLE HUMOR**
- Page 12 - INSTANT GALLERY**
- Page 17 - UPCOMING DEMOS AND EVENTS**
- Page 18 - TURNING SOUTHERN STYLE XVIII**
- Page 19 - MESSAGE FROM AAW: JEAN LeGWIN**
- Page 21 - JULY MEETING RECAP**
- Page 22 - OUR SPONSORS & SUPPLIERS**

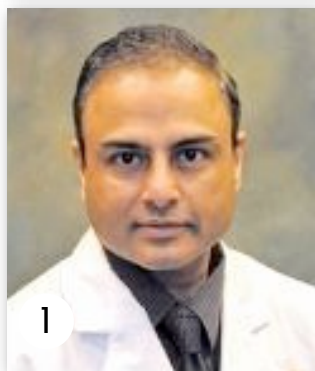


# SHOP TALK



**With:  
Sri  
Shankar**

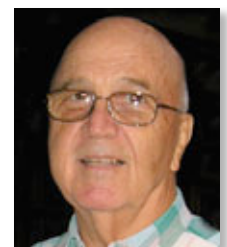
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1

One of MSWG's newest members, Sri (Sridhar Shankar)<sup>1</sup>, has a compact but entirely workable shop contained in a single garage. He is a radiologist at the University of Tennessee and the Regional Medical Center, having come to Memphis 3 years ago from Massachusetts. He was born in Germany of Indian parents; his father is a naval architect. Sri was raised in Calcutta, India, from age three through

**Ray  
Tanner**



(cont. on next page.)

<http://www.woodturner.org/>

<http://www.midsouthwoodturners.com/>



2



4



3



5



8

his graduation from college there. Sri is married, has two children, and has done woodwork and general handyman projects for all his adult life. Several years ago he began doing scroll saw fretwork<sup>2</sup> including some segmented bowls of mixed woods<sup>3,4</sup> and is quite accomplished. His wife often adds her considerable wood burning skills to their projects<sup>5</sup>.

Just a few months ago Sri purchased a used Jet Model 1642 EVS lathe<sup>6</sup> from one of our former MSWG members and took some preliminary lessons from Dennis Paullus. Except for the lathe, all of his machine tools are on wheels. This enables him to have plenty of room around the tool he's using, with the others rolled aside.

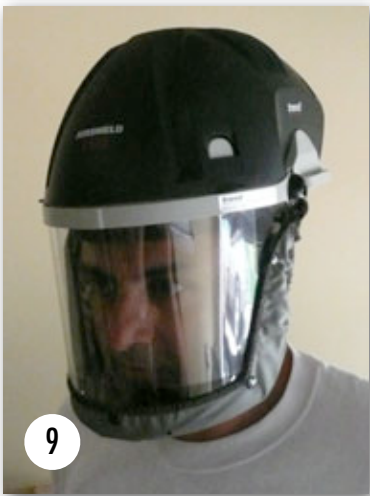
Sri has a central shop vacuum system, and can open the overhead garage door to 'blow-out' the dust and bring in fresh air as well. His tool repertory also includes an extended height band saw<sup>7</sup>, planer, jointer, portable table saw, bench grinder with Wolverine attachment, and assorted electrical and manual hand tools. He is seeking a used oscillating spindle sander for use with his scroll saw projects.

Sri has probably the least stock of wood of any turner's shop I've ever visited, probably due to the short time he's been turning. I suspect this will

(cont. on next page.)



6



9



10

be quickly remedied with his participation in our raffles. While turning he's never without a pencil since he glued a small rare-earth magnet on one<sup>8</sup> end, which holds it in readiness on the side of the lathe bed. Safety-wise, Sri uses a battery-powered Trend Airshield Respirator<sup>9,10</sup> (with replaceable filters). It provides both excellent dust filtration and protection from flying debris. We are fortunate to have him as a member for he has other skills to contribute, e.g. computer knowledge, which not all of us possess.

# WOOD SPIN

## Honey Locust

This is the first time Wood Spin has provided back-to-back articles focusing on trees but it seems appropriate to follow last month's description of black locust with a look at a much different wood, honey locust.

Black locust and honey locust share some characteristics, other than their surname, but there are also many differences. Both trees will tolerate poor soils and both grow rapidly and resist rot. Thorns are present on both trees but the honey locust is the "thorn tree" in that the thorns are numerous (often in clusters) and large, sometimes five inches long. Honey locust thorns have been used by pioneers as sewing needles, pins, and even nails. Interestingly, thornless honey locust varieties are becoming popular to plant along urban streets both because of their beauty and because they can tolerate the imposed harsh conditions of limited water and plenty of vehicle generated pollution.



In recent years I have seen wood from felled honey locust that was totally bland but I have also encountered spectacular wood of this species. The magnificent colors seem to be present most often in older, or even dead, trees. The accompanying photographs show a honey locust tree that was cut from my next door neighbor's yard, and I was able to grab a few pieces before I had leave to run an errand. When I returned, a tree service truck had removed all of this magnificent wood and hauled it to a landfill. Talk about one unhappy woodturner.

(cont. on next page.)

**Emmett Manley**





When turning honey locust, the wood often splinters to some extent and exhibits rough areas even when sharp tools are used. It may appear that the outcome will not be good, but then the wood sands and finishes very nice. The finish is not as glassy as with black locust, but the results can be very pleasing. Another positive is that the rich colors exhibited are not as sensitive to UV fading as is the case with the fresh colors of box elder and osage orange.



Keep your eyes open for honey locust trees that are being removed -- may people don't want these thorn trees in their yards because of the dangerous thorns and because they drop huge seedpods in the autumn. Not every honey locust will be blessed with spectacular wood, but some will, and when you find one of those special trees you will have a treasure.



# THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Rodney Dangerfield said, "I went to a fight the other day and a hockey game broke out". I say, "I went to an upscale wood art exhibit the other day and a MSWG meeting broke out". Wow! What a surprise, one of the best Instant Galleries and President's Challenges we have had in a long time. Thank you to all who participated.

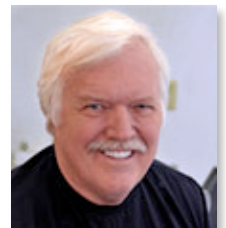
Larry Sefton "scratched the surface" with a great embellishing demo. Larry got to burn, glue, paint, dye, wire brush, crackle, bleach, grout, etc. etc. A lot of great information was given to us in a short time span. Thank you Larry, now it's up to you to bring something to

the Presidents Challenge this month that has been embellished.

I talked last month about three main events coming up we need to be thinking about, the Delta Fair, the Memphis Empty Bowls Project and the CBU exhibit.

(cont. on next page.)

**Skip  
Wilbur**





**Delta Fair** – There are a number of woodturning categories – hollow forms, natural edge, pens, segmented, round rim bowls, etc. Check them out at [deltafest.com](http://deltafest.com). The dates to remember are on or before Aug 16 to submit an entry form which is downloadable via their web site under, “2012 Entry Guidelines & Categories”. On Sat Aug 25 the pieces are due at the Agricenter. Ribbons will be awarded in each category and the “best of show” will receive a gift certificate from the Woodwork Shop. Please consider entering some of your woodturned pieces for this craft contest, it’s a wonderful way to get our club out in the public.

**Memphis Empty Bowls Project** – this is a worthy community event we should all contribute to. Artisans, woodturners, potters and glass artists will contribute cereal size bowls to the project. Sometime in Nov there will be a banquet supplied by local restaurants (\$15 entry fee) and the guests will be able to select a bowl for them to take home. The money from this event will go to the Mid-South food bank and the Food Pantry. They will also have a gallery bowl table where they will offer larger or more intricately crafted bowls which will be individually priced at a higher amount. We will start collecting bowls for this project this month at our meeting place.

**CBU** – We need to start collecting these pieces the first part of Oct so we can have them selected by a panel and photographed for their invitation cards. This exhibit will run from Jan 5 – Feb 14 in the Ross Gallery at CBU and will be dedicated to Joan Kelly.

What inspires you? Let me tell you what I do then provide food for thought. I’ve been woodturning now for 6 years and since the beginning have kept a folder on my computer loaded with photographs of pieces I would like to do some day or an idea from that piece I would like to incorporate into my work. Where do I get these photographs? The AAW web site has a member’s gallery section where you can view

some really great work. Another is to visit some of the well-known wood artists on their web sites and view their gallery section. Check out your local library as well as our (MSWG) library, visit an art museum pay particular attention to the pottery (they were here before woodturners). Creativity and inspiration don’t happen in a vacuum, they must be fed and nurtured. Just as your muscles will atrophy if not used so will your creativity if you are not working with it. You must tap into resources that are all around you, stay inspired, it’s part of the creative process. Participate in a “hands on”, surf the web, sign up for a school or work shop, engage in creative discussions at our meetings. Give yourself permission to be inspired.

*“Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep.” Scott Adams*

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## FOR SALE



W1758 Variable speed with digital readout. 2HP 110Volts Swing over bed 16", distance between centers 43" 2 high quality chucks with acc, cutting tools, 2 tool rests, High quality drill bit chuck with large drill bits, large assortment exotic wood, large amounts of the best sandpaper 34 grit to 400.

Must see to appreciate. No STRANGE DEALS considered. [662 895 9623](http://www.woodturner.org/) price reduced to \$800



Meeting was called to order at 0900.

Previous months minutes were approved and seconded.

**Treasurer's report** - Checking \$1248.78

Joan Kelly Fund \$2027.75

Education Fund \$2565.54

**New members/quests** – one visitor

**Schools/work shops** – Bob Smith gave a report of working with Jimmy Greenwood from Nashville. Bob brought in 4 of the bowls he turned while at the work shop. Jerry Hosier talked about the Arkansas Craft school where he took a class with Jin Atkins and Skip Wilbur talked about Arrowmont where he took a class with Al Stirt.

**Memphis Empty Bowls Project** – Skip briefed the club on this opportunity to contribute to a great project. The club will start collecting bowls starting Aug meeting and continuing through Oct.

**CBU** – Skip briefed the club on the timeline for collecting, judging and photographing the exhibit pieces.

**Delta Fair** – Skip encouraged members to participate in the wood turning craft portion of the fair. Entry forms and brochures were available.

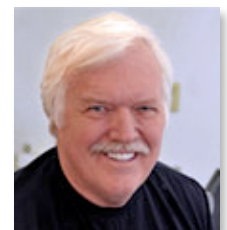
**Safety report** – The safety committee needs another member, they usually meet once every quarter.

**August demo** – All day. Morning session will be Joel Benson doing a green wood turned bowl. Afternoon session will be “hands on” for a green wood bowl.

**September** – all day. Saturday – Mike Gibson will demo tea pots and late afternoon Cynthia will start doing a demo on pyrography. Sunday “hands on” will be all day pyrography for a cost of \$40 for up to 10 people.

(cont. on next page.)

**Skip  
Wilbur**



**Octoberfest** – Mid-South Perspective pieces due, tool sale/swap, Cliff and William Valentine doing a hat demo, portable saw mill demo, sharpening tool demo and an ornament turning demo.

**Tips/Techniques/Sources** – Rick Gillespie talked about experimenting with a mixture of acetone/plexiglass to stabilize wood. Skip talked about an adjustment knob for the Wolverine jig that keeps the tool from slipping while sharpening. A 5 minute video was also shown on sanding techniques after a number of questions arose the previous month.

**Vendor list** – a list was passed around for members to add their name to if they want to receive a discount for certain vendors.

**Presidents Challenge** – embellishments.

Skip introduced Larry Sefton as the featured demonstrator. Larry went to Appalachian Craft school on a EOG scholarship from MSWG. Larry provided the club with a slide shop presentation of the school and it's facilities. Larry studied under Clay Foster and Jennifer Shirley. Larry showed some examples of gesso and milk paint enhancements. Larry then talked about enhancements with dyes and tints. One portion of the demo Larry broke an egg and used the cracked egg shell to embellish some wood. Another part of the demo Larry took a torch to an open grain wood and burnt the surface, wire brushed it, sprayed lacquer on it and rubbed in molding paste (with added color) and finished with a common wax. Larry also talked about sand blasting, soda blasting and milk paint crackling.

Raffle

Meeting adjourned at 11:45.

## A LITTLE HUMOR

Alex and Benny had been woodworking buddies for almost eighty years, and one day Alex speculated on the possibility of there being woodworking in heaven. Both agreed that whoever died first would come back and tell the other if there is. As it turned out, Benny died the next day. Exactly one month later, Alex woke up to the sound of his name being called.

“Alex! Wake Up! I have good news and I have bad news!” cried the ghost of Benny to his friend. “The good news is that woodworking is everywhere in Heaven! No matter where you go, there’s an open shop. They always have the latest tools, everything always cuts perfectly, joints practically join themselves! It’s paradise up there!”

“That is good news,” Alex said. “But what’s the bad news?”

“You’re scheduled to give a demonstration on dovetails tomorrow at 2:30.”

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Observing ‘The Baby’ one night a wife found her husband standing over their baby’s crib. Silently she watched him. As he stood looking down at the sleeping infant, she saw on his face a mixture of emotions: disbelief, doubt, delight, amazement, enchantment, scepticism.

Touched by this unusual display and the deep emotions it aroused, with eyes glistening she slipped her arm around her husband. “A penny for your thoughts,” she said.

“It’s amazing!” he replied. “I just can’t see how anybody can make a crib like that for only \$46.50.”

# JULY 2012

# INSTANT GALLERY



A cherry bowl with a very nice shape.

**BOB SMITH**



A nice walnut bowl.

**BOB SMITH**



Beautiful walnut bowl.

**BOB SMITH**



The grain on this willow platter is fantastic. Great job Bob.

**BOB SMITH**



A 3/4 size african mahogany football on stand with laser etched logo.

**CECIL BOWERS**



An unfinished but full of potential piece of mesquite.

**DENNIS PAULLUS**



A set of mushrooms made from various woods.

**EMMETT MANLEY**



Maple and plywood vase with a nice wipe on finish.

**JERRY HOSIER**



Sycamore pepper mill with an antique oil finish.

**JERRY HOSIER**



Low cost / no cost face plates.

**JOHN JOHNSON**



A salt cellar. Bradford pear with ebony spoon. Walnut oil finish.

**JOSEPH VODA**



Maple lidded box with walnut finial. Danish oil finish.

**JOSPEH VODA**



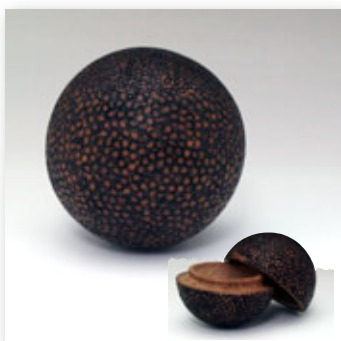
Bradford pear sphere with pyrography. First attempt.

**KEITH BURNS**



Bradford pear hollow form with pyrography and classic Keith Burns finial.

**KEITH BURNS**



Mesquite sphere threaded box with pyrography.

**KEITH BURNS**



A nicely textured vase finished with milk paint.

**LARRY SEFTON**



A nice fan pull.

**MATT GARNER**



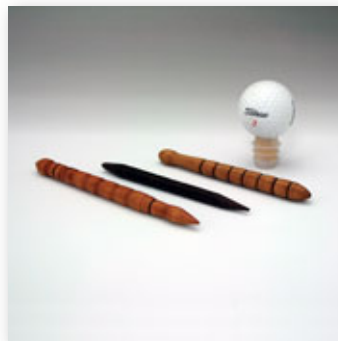
Big leaf maple hollow form with holly detail ring and finial. Varnish finish buffed.

**MIKE MAFFITT**



Black walnut threaded box. Varnish finish buffed.

**MIKE MAFFITT**



Stylus for touchscreen devices from various types of wood.

**RAY TANNER**



Maple baby rattle.

**RICH POHLAND**



Roseville vase made of segmented purpleheart with stone inlays.

**RICK CANNON**



Purpleheart segmented vase with corian inlays.

**RICK CANNON**



A sapelle segmented vase. Beautiful piece.

**RICK CANNON**



A platter with ash handcast.

**RICK STONE**



Big leaf maple burl hand hollowed bowl.

**RICK STONE**



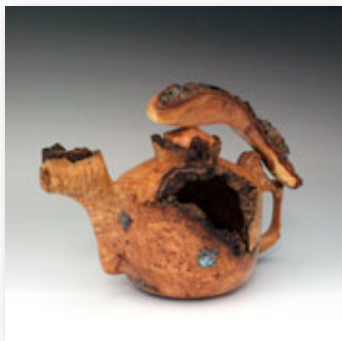
A poplar vase hollowed from the bottom and dyed.

**RICK STONE**



A beautiful carved square winged bowl.

**SKIP WILBUR**



Choke cherry burl tea pot in the Cliff Lounsbury style.

**SKIP WILBUR**



A nicely carved globe of maple leaves in a square winged bowl.

**SKIP WILBUR**



Wave bowls of holly and cherry wood.

**TATE THOMAS**



A pine art form on walnut base.

**TERRY REYNOLDS**



What a piece! Great bowl and stand Terry. This stands about four feet tall.

**TERRY REYNOLDS**



Walnut winged bowl.

**TERRY REYNOLDS**



Walnut offset winged bowl.

**TERRY REYNOLDS**



Double bowl. Wood unknown.

**TERRY REYNOLDS**



Unfinished hat in bender. Without a doubt it will be another beauty from the Valentines.

**VALENTINE BROTHERS**



Unfinished hat in bender. Without a doubt it will be another beauty from the Valentines.

**VALENTINE BROTHERS**



# UPCOMING DEMOS & EVENTS

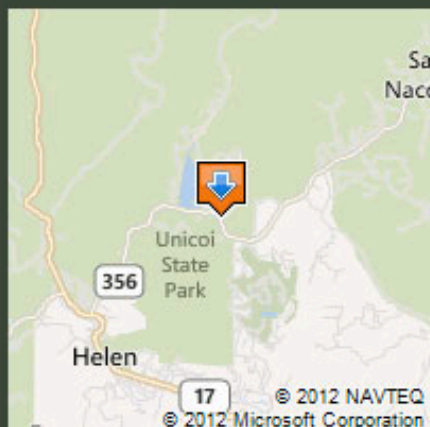
- **August 25th, 2012 MSWG**
  - Joel Benson will demonstrate green bowl turning followed by a hands on class on the same subject. Pieces will be brought back to Octoberfest to be finished out. This is a great opportunity for anyone who has never attempted a twice turned bowl.
  - Memphis Empty Bowls Project. We will start collecting donated bowls for an event in November, so you have time to complete a piece or two. This is for a very worthy cause.
  
- **September 14th – 16th, 2012**
  - Turning Southern Style XVIII (See Page 18 For Details)
  
- **September 22nd, 2012 MSWG**
  - Mike & Cynthia Gibson will do a demo. Mike Gibson will demo tea pots and late afternoon Cynthia will start doing a demo on pyrography.
  
- **September 23rd, 2012 MSWG**
  - Mike & Cynthia Gibson will host a “hands on” pyrography class all day.
  
- **October 27th, 2012 MSWG**
  - Octoberfest at Joel Benson’s home. There will be a lathe set aside for those who did green wood turning in Aug to finish their bowl. Mid-South Perspective pieces due, there will be a tool sale/swap, Cliff and William Valentine will be doing a hat demo, portable saw mill demo by Rich Pohland, sharpening tool demo and an ornament turning demo.
  
- **Nov 17th, 2012 MSWG**
  - CBU pieces due. Turn these in at general meeting.
  - May turn in up to 5 pieces but only 3 pieces maximum will be selected to be displayed at CBU. If there is a light turnout for pieces being submitted, a 4th piece will be chosen from the previous pieces submitted. We will need 35 – 40 pieces to be displayed. This is a big deal as thousands of people will see the display.
  
- **Dec 22nd, 2012 MSWG**
  - Christmas party. Details to follow.
  
- **Feb 23rd – 24th, 2013 MSWG**
  - Mark Gardner will be demonstrating. The following day he will host a paid event for a hands on class. Details to follow.

## Turning Southern Style XVIII



### Where:

Unicoi State Park Lodge  
1788 Highway 356  
Helen, GA 30545  
(800) 573-9659 or (706) 878-2201



### Driving Directions

### When:

Friday September 14, 2012 at 1:00 PM  
-to-  
Sunday September 16, 2012 at 12:00 PM

[Add to my calendar](#)

If you are planning to attend our "Turning Southern Syle XVIII" symposium at Unicoi Lodge, but have not yet registered, please don't wait any longer! **The \$35 Early Enrollment discount ends after midnight August 14th.**

**Also... the \$15 per night discount on our block of Unicoi Lodge rooms also ends on August 14th...** (we have added every available room to our block, but they are going fast!)

Come join everyone at the GAW's annual symposium, "Turning Southern Style XVIII". This year's event will again be held at the Unicoi State Park and Lodge in the beautiful Georgia mountains near Helen, Georgia on September 14-16, 2012.

Our symposium is designed for all levels of turners and for those interested in getting started. Whether you want to watch internationally famous demonstrators produce stunning works of art, or you're looking for help in developing basic turning skills, you will find plenty to enjoy and learn at "Turning Southern Style".

If you have already registered, thank you. If you provided an email address, you should have received email confirmation, . If you have not received a confirmation, and you believe you have registered, please send an email to [symposium@gawoodturner.org](mailto:symposium@gawoodturner.org).

### Our Featured Demonstrators:

- Stuart Batty
- Dale Larson
- Binh Pho

### Also Featured Are:

- Nick Cook
- Cynthia and Michael Gibson
- John Jordan
- Mark Sillay
- Dave Barriger

# MESSAGE FROM AAW BOARD

One of the primary benefits of AAW membership is access to vast educational resources that are available only to members. These include the American Woodturner archives, the AAW website forums, and chapter libraries, to name just a few. But I wonder how many of us think of ourselves as a part of that resource pool. We look to AAW as the source for new techniques, new projects, new points of view, but do we stop and think that we, as individuals, possess a wealth of information that could be passed on to others? Learning to improve our own skills and increase our knowledge is complemented by teaching what we know to others.

Next time you are at a club meeting or symposium, take a minute to look around you. Most likely the majority of those you see will be over 60. The craft we fell in love with is an ancient one, but unless we pass along our love of it and the skills needed to practice it, we may be witness to its being relegated to the living museums of the world.

Teaching others our craft is an opportunity to bring woodturning into our communities while at the same time expanding our own experience and improving our own skills. Many of us think that we are not experienced enough, are not good enough, to teach anyone else. However, I believe the moment we grasp the safety requirements to use a lathe and possess some rudimentary skills, we can begin teaching. There is a saying that is frequently quoted among woodturners which captures the essence of this approach: See one, do one, teach one. If you have basic competence in using a roughing gouge to

turn a cylinder from a square piece of wood, you are ready to teach.

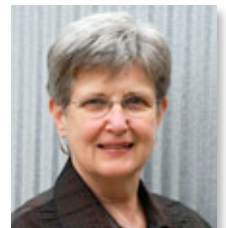
To quote a good friend, "Mastery is more than a lifetime's work, but the joy of woodturning begins at the first cut." Do you remember the thrill of turning your first cylinder? Or your first bead? Many years after my first attempts at making a cylinder, I still remember the excitement of making chips fly. These days I am thrilled to help someone else have that same experience and witness their becoming hooked on turning

So how does one start teaching? There are many ways to begin. Perhaps the easiest is to join with other club members and offer to give classes at a local school, a scout troop, a community development center, or at a county fair or museum. Our local club has had great success in approaching schools with an offer to demonstrate our craft or teach after school sessions. Having a demonstration booth at the local county fair and other local events has sparked an enormous amount of interest and a few new club members. We have even been asked to teach classes at the local community college. The Jacksonville, FL, club started a program for boys at risk with

(cont. on next page.)

**Jean  
LeGwin**

AAW Board Member



their Safe Harbor Program. Bob Schrader works on his own, teaching 40 kids a week at the Kingsport, TN, Boys and Girls Club. Beth Ireland, with her Turning across America program, spent a year traveling around the United States teaching turning from the back of a van at parks, schools, and clubs, and introduced thousands of people to turning.

We in AAW have opportunities and challenges ahead in increasing awareness of turning and passing along our craft to the next generation. Woodshop is being phased out of many school systems, and the young of today have few opportunities to learn traditional hand skills. We have the opportunity to develop programs at the local and national level to fill this void. We have the challenge of expanding our membership to a wider audience of women, minorities, physically challenged, and young and old. We have the challenge of integrating the artistic sculptural use of the lathe with the tradition of furniture making and expanding the reach of our craft into the art world.

Outreach efforts open the eyes of many people to our craft, help grow our chapters, and provide immense satisfaction for all who participate. If you are bored with the thought of making yet another bowl, get involved in community outreach. You will find great rewards and enormous satisfaction in sharing your skills with others.

--Jean LeGwin



Contributed by: Bob Speier

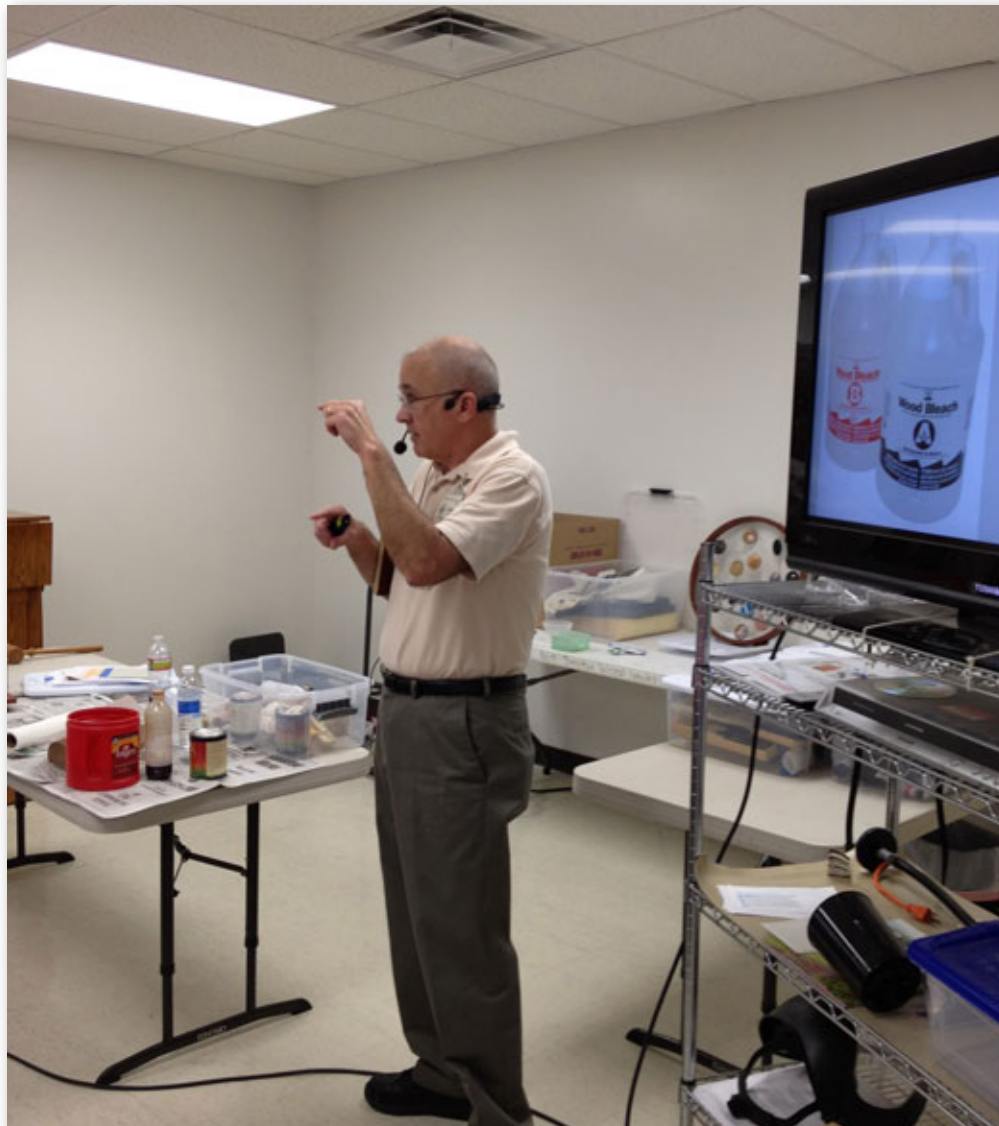


# July Meeting Recap: Embellishments By: Larry Sefton

Larry Sefton presented one of the most information filled demos I believe I have ever seen. He covered so many different finishing and embellishment styles, it was hard to keep them all straight.

Great job on a fantastic presentation and the loads of preparation it must have taken to present so much information in a concise and entertaining way.

Thanks Larry!



The Woodwork Shop, Inc  
8500 Wolf Lake Drive  
Suite 101  
Bartlett, TN 38133

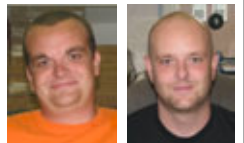


Jim Cole Tommy Crawford Evans Woodward Floyd Carter

Phone: (901) 755-7355  
Fax: (901) 755-2907  
Email: [thewoodworkshop@bellsouth.net](mailto:thewoodworkshop@bellsouth.net)

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