



Turner's Talk



By: Steve Heathman

The Mid South Woodturners Guild is a not for profit organization formed to promote and encourage the art of woodturning and in doing so promote and encourage the art and craft of woodturning in general. Membership is open to any individual and includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter. Meetings are held monthly at Central Christian Church, 531 S. McLean Blvd., Memphis, TN, on the fourth Saturday of each month at 09:30 am. Annual dues are \$15.00. Address inquiries about the to Mid South Woodturners, c/o Hershel Miller, 4875 Black Gum, Millington, TN 38053. News letter items should be sent to Steve Heathman, 115 Haley Lane , Atoka, TN 38004 or heathman@earthlink.net. Send Web site items to Chuck Ludwigsen at chuck@ludwigsen.org

August Meeting is on the 28th Split Turning: By — Hershel Miller

Our Mailing Address:

Mid South Woodturners Guild
c/o Hershel Miller
4875 Black Gum Dr.
Millington, TN 38053

Web-Site - midsouthwoodturners.com

Pres. - Hershel Miller, VP Mike Kelly
Secretary - Steven Foldenauer
Treasurer - John Stubblefield
Board Members- Richard Lee, Norm Fowler
Steve Heathman
Web Master- Chuck Ludwigsen
Newsletter Editor- Steve Heathman

Our Meeting Place:

Central Christian Church
531 S. McLean Blvd.
Memphis, TN

Meeting Time: 9:30 to 11:30am

Orlando Symposium 2004

By Jeff Bennett

I recently attended my first AAW symposium. Luck was on my side and it happened to be scheduled at the same time I was close by on my family vacation so there was no way I was going to pass it up. It truly was an incredible experience. It was amazing to be on an elevator with artists like Jacques Vesery who is an incredibly nice guy who went out of his way to be gracious to a first time symposium attendee or be walking down the hall and have David Ellsworth nod to you and wave. To us these are stars. To my wife I'm just a little bit goofy.

I arrived at the convention center early on Friday morning in time for the opening ceremonies and didn't miss a single rotation or other event the entire weekend. Marilyn Campbell was the first demonstrator I saw. Her signature work is deconstructed sculptural pieces made by turning a wavy platter, cutting it apart on the band saw then reassembling it in interesting ways using epoxy. The pieces are then sanded textured and painted turning them into beautiful flowing forms.

Later that day I saw Mark Sfirri make eccentric candle sticks. Mark is deeply involved in furniture making so he brings a different perspective to turning than some. Much of his work is a mixture of these two fields. This was highlighted later in a presentation he did with Jacques Vesery on collaboration. The work presented in their slideshow was very interesting, showing collaborations not just between turners but between artists in other mediums as well.

Trent Bosch was another favorite. I attended four different demonstrations by Trent. His "Vessels of Illusion" and "Decorative Utility Bowls" are beautiful to look at and relatively easy to achieve for an intermediate turner. He showed me that I don't have to be able to draw like Rembrandt or sculpt like Michelangelo to make a beautiful piece. A little imagination and some simple techniques can produce dramatic results.

It was nice to see some others from Memphis as well. Dennis Paullus was there and had his work displayed right beside David Ellsworth's in the Instant Gallery. Where you see Dennis, Joel won't be far behind and it was nice to see him as well. Sig Schwartz, who will soon be leaving us to take up residence in Florida, was there

also and I got to sit with him during a couple of rotations. Sig, Dennis and I went to the banquet together on Saturday night. The auction raised a record amount of money this year - Almost \$50,000.

I had hoped to purchase a small piece for my collection but the bidding frenzy didn't let that happen. After spending as much as I did on tools there was no way to justify a \$600.00 finger top to my wife. Oh well, maybe next year.

I suggest you make it a point to attend a symposium if you can. I learned a lot. Met some great people and came home inspired. There is not enough room in this newsletter to describe every technique I learned or idea I borrowed. You have to see for yourself. Next year is Kansas City. If anybody wants a roommate I'll be going.

President's Corner:

Thanks - Our thanks to Mike Kelly for an excellent demonstration and for sharing his method of wood orientation, roughing, and how to achieve some unique natural edge designs. If you have been looking for a method of adding some flair to your Natural Edge bowls, then give Mike's technique a try. Do remember, that turning a natural or bark edge piece presents some ghosting, or shadow surfaces that need to be taken into account. If you're not use to working with ghosting surfaces - then due caution is the order of the day!

Demonstration for August - In our August meeting, I will be relinquishing some of the club meetings duties to Mike Kelly, bring my smock and actually get involve in Woodturner! I'm planning to explore the realm of Split Turned objects and if all goes well maybe some inside-out turning. Want to know more, well then you'll just have to attend the August 28 meeting and watch the demonstration.

Professional Turner: John Jordan of Antioch, TN has agreed to do a two day symposium for the Mid South Woodturners! John's work appears in several national galleries including the Smithsonian. His in-depth knowledge of the woodturning process is phenomenal. Also, John is an accomplished instructor and his delivery makes the most difficult topic seem less unattainable. John's schedule allowed him to visit with us during the weekend of December 11 and 12. We will kick off at 09:00 on both days and hope to finish around 4:00 pm. Due to the church utilizing our current meeting room on Sunday mornings, we will have to relocate to the gym (its directly above our current meeting room). There are several places (within a few blocks of the church) to catch a quick lunch. Donuts, cokes, and coffee will be available each morning. Cost for both days: members \$20.00, members single day \$15.00, non-members \$50.00 for both days (or \$25.00 per day). Since John's profession is woodturning and his primary means of income is from his work, doing symposiums, and selling instructional videos (he currently has two videos of

his work), therefore, this demonstration will not be taped. If you want to be a part of this special event, then you must attend.

Instant Gallery: I don't know if it's the heat of summer or what, but as I walked past the Instant Gallery table and the sparse display of items I couldn't help wonder what all of you woodturners have been doing this summer? My lathe works in the summer and there is still plenty of tree trimming on the street to keep me busy. So, for this August meeting lets challenge ourselves to bring an item for the Gallery. And, possibly put some of Mike Kelly's demonstration to good use by turning a Natural Edge piece!

Future Demonstrations: Do you have a topic, process, or procedure that you would like to see demonstrated? If so let me or Mike Kelly know and we'll do our best to get in on the list of future demonstrations.

Mid South Fair: Reminder -- Entry application deadline for the Mid South Fair Creative Arts Center Woodworking Exhibit is August 25. As woodturners, lets not let the carvers nor the woodworkers dominate in the Woodworking category again this year! Please, get out from one to three items and enter them in the Woodturning Class. If you need information or help - let me know!

Five Minute Problem Demonstration: Last meeting several people came up to me with questions about tools and/or questions about how to do something. If you will get these questions to me a week or so prior to the meeting, I will try to have a 5-minute problem solving demonstration covering at least one question each meeting. Most of the problems or questions most of you have are great and need to be shared with other members! I request several days advanced notice just in case I have to bring a tool, make something, or obtain some other material for the demonstration.

Cheers and Enjoy the Turning Experience,
Hershel

July Meeting minutes

By Steve Foldenauer

The meeting was called to order by President, Hershel Miller at 09:30 A.M. Hershel welcomed members and visitors to the meeting. The minutes from the June meeting were accepted as published in the newsletter. Our Treasurer, John Stubblefield, was unable to attend the meeting this month. The Treasurer's report was given by Hershel and approved by the membership. A total of 52 Members and 2 visitors, Joan Kelly and Wayne Cathey who became members before the clay ended, attended the meeting.

Hershel introduced Steve Heathman as our new Board

member and the editor of our newsletter and also introduced Chuck Ludwigsen as our new web master. Chuck will also continue as our Librarian.

A revision to the by-laws was also discussed. Copies for the membership to review will be available at either the August or September meeting.

This month we added new tapes to the library. The tapes include the 2003 Symposium, Turning Items from Scrap by Robert Rosand, and a DVD on Sharpening with Bonnie Klein, John Jordan, Bill Johnson, and Alan Lacer.

Donuts, sodas and coffee were provided by the club.

Shirts with the Guild's logo were on sale for \$30. We still have several shirts left that will be available for purchase at the August meeting.

We have access to some discounts because of our membership in MSWG and AAW. Klingspor Corp. will give us a 10% discount. Remember, you have to ask for it when you order...they will not ask you. You may order products by calling 1-800-228-0000 or on line after calling and setting up an account and password. Craft Supplies is giving a 15% discount on Videos and DVD's when you give them the code number 04SPAAB8.

Our demonstrator this month was Mike Kelly. Mike demonstrated turning Natural Edged Vessels. Mike showed us how to visualize our piece and how best to pull it from the log. He also showed us some of the tools he uses to turn his natural edged pieces.

Activities for upcoming meetings will include:
August 14-15: TAW Symposium in Nashville
August: Hershel Miller on Split Turnings.
September: Twice Turned Bowl by Joel Benson.
October: Turning Fest
November: Norm Fowler will make Christmas Ornaments.
December 11-12: Well-known professional turner, John Jordan will give a 2 day seminar.

See you all in August.
Steve Foldenauer, Secretary

Raffle Notes:

- **Participating in the raffle each month is important.** Your donations help support club functions such as monthly refreshments, prizes and lunch for our October Turning Festival. Plus, there's always the chance that you'll win that - prize piece of wood - or some other useful item.
- Remember -There's no right or wrong way to tackle

a fresh piece of wood. Some forms or shapes can enhance the piece, but all are acceptable. It's your wood, do with it what you wish.

Donating to the Raffle:

Thanks to following individuals:

DuPree Cooper	Brad McCullum
Jeff Bennett	Randy McAuley
Norm Fowler	Lee Chandler
John Williams	Ray Halley
Swan Parks	Joe Greggs
Chuck Ludwigsen	Herb Gould
Steve Foldenauer	

Raffle Challenge! We're challenging everyone to bring something for the raffle!

Donate a tool you no longer use, wood, a piece you've lost interest in, sandpaper, books, or just about anything related to wood turning. Gift Certificates are also great.

July meeting review

By Steve Heathman

I would like to thank Mike Kelly for putting on an awesome demo during our July meeting. There are so many ways to turn a natural edge on a project. Mike was able to explain and demo his own technique for his double rim hollow form. Before he jumped in, he was quick to explain the hazards and some safety tips required when turning a natural edge form. It seems that if you are not aware of the ghost rim flying around, you could be in for a shock when an edge catches an unknowing knuckle. Ouch, I don't even like to think about it.

Unfortunately, Mike didn't have enough time to hollow either of the two vessels demonstrated, but he was able to explain form and balance. Mike gave some great pointers for us to follow to help give a piece balance, which loosely translates to more eye appeal.

I encourage you all to try a natural edge piece. Turn one and bring it in for display in our instant gallery.

Grinding Wheels

By: Hershel Miller

Aluminum Oxide (white) wheels, Ceramic wheels, Pink wheels, Green wheels, or Blue wheels which of these is best for my needs. For high-speed steel tools you need (at the very least) an Aluminum Oxide (white) grinding wheel and there are different degrees of quality in these wheels. The performance of any product goes back to quality vs. price - and most of the time you get what you pay for. In most cases, you have to trust the manufacturer's brand name. Norton makes great products and they are a bit pricey, but you can be assured of the product quality. The cheaper wheels tend to be not too uniform in thickness and roundness and when mounted on your grinder will cause excessive vibrations.

Four factors determine how well a grinding wheel works: the abrasive grain, the porosity of the material, the type of bond used to hold the grain together, and the overall hardness of the wheel.

Probably at the top of the line (in the American grinding wheels) are the Norton SC wheels (6" wheels are \$70.00). These wheels are ceramic and noted by their blue color. One of these wheels will last the average person a lifetime. The new light blue microcrystalline sintered wheel is cool in both senses of the word, a grinding wheel, which removes metal fairly fast, is easy to use, doesn't burn your blade and keeps its shape with only the need for occasional dressing.

Its composition is radically different from white, ruby, and sapphire wheels. Their grit is formed in a furnace but microcrystalline grit is precipitated from a solution in a kind of gel. It is composed of scores of tiny crystals sintered (bonded by heat) together into little clumps. These break down slowly and progressively, exposing fresh cutting edges all the time, rather than the more irregular breakdown typical of furnace-formed grit.

The 'micro' part of microcrystalline is the important part here. As the particles are smaller, so the cutting effect on the tool leaves a smoother finish and a better edge. These wheels self sharpen more effectively than previous wheels, run much cooler and can last up to five times longer between dressings. Craft Supplies has these in 46 and 80 grit. These wheels have finer grit added to give a better edge quality in a coarser wheel. In industry, apparently, these wheels increase production by a factor of five in some applications.

Woodworkers Supply has Premium Blue Aluminum Oxide Wheels (mfg. by CGW in the USA) in 36, 60, and 80 grit for around \$20.00 for a 6" wheel. If you are primarily

sharpening woodturning tools, I recommend one each of the 60 and 80 grit wheels. The additional tool friction required in using finer grits tend to heat the tool and takes longer to sharpen. OneWay sells a great Blue Oxide wheel in 54, 80, and 120 grit, and the cost of the OneWay 6" wheel is around \$31.00. I don't know who manufactures grinding wheel for OneWay, but the quality is up with the best.

In use

I was amazed at difference in the wheels and how good the Blue Oxide wheel is - the contrast with previous wheels I've used is dramatic. Pink and white wheels are good, but the blue wheel is excellent, giving an edge similar to that of a wet-stone grinder, but in a fraction of the time. A quality Blue Oxide wheel is the grinding wheel I've searched for! It costs about twice as much (sometimes more) as a pink or white wheel, but is worth it. I tried the 80 grit 6" diameter by 3/4" wide wheel.

Instant Gallery Notes:

What have you been working on? What have you seen demonstrated and have tried? The Instant Gallery isn't just for finished items! Bring a mistake and we'll try to help you solve some techniques and/or share the do's and don'ts with other members. Remember, the way the 'expert' does it may not work for you. Try new ways until you feel comfortable with the shape, cut or technique.

The nine members had items in the instant gallery.

Glen Alexander	Joe Adamson
Hershel Miller	Bill Shaw
Cecil Cravens	John Williams
Steve Foldenauer	Joe Griggs
Lee Chandler	

Instant Gallery

Our Instant Gallery numerous items. All very beautiful and exquisitely turned.
The following members had items in the gallery



LEFT: Glen Alexander
Two Time pieces turned from
Walnut and Tulip
He's been turning on & off since
1948



RIGHT: John Williams
Natural Edge Wormy Elm Bowl
He's been turning approx 4
years on and off. Lee Chandler
got him started.



LEFT & RIGHT: Hershel Miller
Walnut Natural Edge Bowl and
three Oak ,and Maple spalted
hollow forms



Unfortunately, I made a huge mistake when I was down loading all the great pictures from the July meeting. I was able to get four of the pictures that I had already saved and while I thought I was rotating one of the pictures I accidentally formatted the flash memory in my camera. I guess I will have to try this again next meeting.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR AAW PRESIDENT

By Phil Brennion

There have been a lot of changes happening in the AAW this year and more on the way. One significant change is our move of the home office in Shoreview to the Landmark Center in down town St. Paul. Many of you may remember the "Put a Lid on It" show that was held at the Landmark Center, in conjunction with the Minneapolis Symposium. This wonderful facility housed the Minnesota Museum of American Art. Our new headquarters will now enjoy gallery area for our permanent collection, as well as room for future workshop facilities. This much needed move is being accomplished prudently using our Non Profit Status in cooperation with the city of St. Paul. Our phone number will remain the same, but our new address will be

222 Landmark Center
75 West Fifth Street
St. Paul, MN. 55102

This years turning exhibition "Sea to Odyssey" will travel from the Orlando Symposium site to our new facility and be on exhibition until Jan 1st. If you're in the Minneapolis area please stop by.

There have also been significant change in our web site recently, the latest being our photo forum. Anyone can now access and register for the new photo forum through the AAW homepage www.woodturner.org. There you can post any turning related images. This site is sure to inspire anyone interested in turning and we invite all turners to post. I highly recommend both the Text Message Forum and the Photo Forum as resources for turning information.

Please remember the AAW home office has Non Profit information packets available for "your chapter", if you are considering 5013c status.

The fall issue of The American Woodturner will

be full color.

You will also notice this issue is poly wrapped, as it will include your 2005 membership renewal application, and the upcoming election and by-law ballot. . This will replace the separate mailers we have sent out in the past. Please remind your members to fill out and return.

In closing, I would like to thank the chapters and their members for your continued interest and support, sharing your knowledge of turning within your community and beyond.

Warmest regards,
Phil Brennion
AAW President

DECEMBER JOHN JORDAN SYMPOSIUM

Due to facility restrictions the John Jordan symposium has been tentatively scheduled for Friday evening, December 10 from 18:00 to 21:00 (6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.) or so -- and then all day Saturday, December 11 from 09:00 to 16:00. Updates will be posted on the Web Site and in future Turner Talk

Turning Magnificent Vessels

By Larry Sefton

In June of 2004 I attended a turning class offered at John C. Campbell Folk School titled Magnificent Vessels. If you want to improve or jump start you're turning skills, knowledge, techniques, and designs in woodturning; then go to a class such as the one offered at Folk School. They have many course offerings for the wood turner ranging from no experience to very advanced.

Folk School had a blue ribbon recipe for my learning and success. What was their recipe?

Atmosphere - Nestled on 380 acres in a rolling valley in Brasstown, North Carolina where you can become totally focused on woodturning and the other on campus activities (no outside distractions like cell phones, television, lawns to be mowed, etc.)

Equipment - 11 lathes with One-Way chucks and live centers.

Tools - They supply all tools needed for the beginner (advanced workers need to take their own).

Instructors - John Mascoll was the instructor and Bruce Hoover was the assistant for my course. Both have been taught at the Folk School before: one a year and the other for the past 4 years. They were outstanding!

Materials - Mostly green wood from their cutting yard. (For safety reasons only the instructors can use the chain saw and band saws for cutting your blanks.)

Class Makeup - My class had 12 students (the max) and included an 18-year-old female (wow did she do well), to a 70-year-old retired dentist, the president of a well-known Woodturners Guild, and a retired trauma nurse.

Class Time - There are guidelines set by the school but the instructors can set additional class time if they want. I never added up my class time until now-what a surprise! My total class hours were 62. Cost factor (affordable) and the 62 hours were done all within a week time period. The dentist worked at his own pace, and the 18 year old put in way more class time than I did. She was late for class one day and we were told she had worked the night before until 2:30 AM. The instructors stayed until 1:00 or 2:30 AM four of the nights. I'm not sure if this is typical but was a great opportunity for a lot of one-on-one time.

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Meeting Schedule:

August 14-15 - TAW Symposium in Nashville

Aug 28 - Split Turning — Hershel Miller

Sept 25 - Twice Turned Bowl by Joel Benson

Oct 23 - Turning Festival

Nov 27 - Christmas Ornaments— Norm Fowler

Dec 10-11 - John Jordan Symposium

Meeting Format:

Club Business: 9:30 - 9:50am

Demonstration: 9:50 - 11:20

Raffle: 11:20 - 11:30 - Items donated by members

Adjourn Meeting: 11:30

Member News:

- **Membership:**

To date, 102 members have joined/renewed their membership. Our membership goal for the year 2004 is 100+.

- **July Meeting:**

attendance was - 54 members and 2 visitors

What did I as a newbie (never had turned on a full size lathe) make in those 62 hours?

- 1 large bowl – Box Elder
- 1 – 12" platter - Cherry
- 1 – natural edged bowl – Pear (ended in piece but two ladies from the woodcarving class: made earrings from the pieces)
- 4 – hollow forms – Cherry, Box Elder and Spalted Maple



I used one coat of General Finishes – Wipe On Sealacell – Tung Oil Sealer & Stain (Clear), Five coats of General Finishes – Wipe On Arm-R-Seal Heavy Duty Oil & Urethane Top Coat (Semi-Gloss) and an Abralon pad 500 between coats and an Abralon 4000 on the topcoat.

Would I go back? YES! I am already signed up for an advanced class in January 2005. Help – I will need some heavily burl'd wood for this advanced class and have no clue where to get some.

P.S. For the record: My wife had the same type experience with her quilting class, the food was very good, and the other school activities and the sleeping accommodations were also outstanding.

John C. Campbell Folk School
One Folk School Road
Brasstown, North Carolina 28902
(phone) 1.800.FOLK SCH or 828.837.2775
(fax) 828.837.8637
www.folkschool.org

Larry Sefton
(901) 377-2693
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Area Symposiums:

The Tennessee Association of Woodturners will have their annual symposium August 13th and 14th in Nashville. Information and a registration form are posted on our web site at: www.midsouthwoodturners.com

Southwest Association of Turners 13th Annual Symposium
Presented by the AAW chapter of Texas for the enjoyment of the entire Southwest Region
Mayborn Convention Center

3303 North 3rd St., Temple, Texas 76501

October 1-3, 2004

Featured Demonstrators:

Michael Hosaluk – Canada

Phil Brennon - Arizona

Nick Cook – Georgia

Steve Worcester - Texas

Linda Salter – California

Plus 16 other regional and local demonstrators doing a total of 52 rotations over a 2 ½ day period.

A Hands-On workshop will be available during the entire symposium for beginners and advanced turners who may need a little help along the way.

More than a dozen vendors will be on hand to meet your needs. The 2nd annual two-for-one raffle will be at the Saturday night banquet. Main raffle prizes include a PM 3520a lathe and two Jet mini lathes. Register before August 15th and save \$10.00
For more information and a registration form, visit our website at: www.swaturners.com or contact Dan Henry at: danhenny@pulse.net

See website for hotel information. It is suggested that you make lodging arrangements as soon as possible.

Welcome Guests and visitors:

To all the guest/visitors. We hope you enjoyed yourselves and will return next month. If you like what you see, join and become a part of the greatest woodturners guild in the AAW.

Classified:

A fellow club member has sold his house, is moving to Florida, and need to sell the following tools.

. Delta variable speed lathe Model 46-525 with outboard attachment and accessories, including safety hood \$1,000

. Several 3-inch and 6-inch faceplates (1"x tpi)

. Offset base extension

. Outboard floor stand

. Several #1 and #2 MT drill bits

. Sorby 6 in 1 chuck

. Many other accessories

Call Sig Schwartz @ 901-685-7034 or 901-237-2400

Please forward your items for sale, trade, or free to Steve Heathman at heathman@earthlink.net or call 901-837-3720. Items will be published in the newsletter for one month only. Deadline for entry is the 5th of each month.

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Phone: 901/755-7355 Fax: 901/755-2907

E-mail- ddean@thewoodworkshopinc.com

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