



Turner's Talk



Steve Van Voorst, Editor

** Hollow Forms on a Mini-Lathe - Travis Stinson **



Travis creates a hollow form.

by Joan Kelly

Do you turn on a mini lathe and sometimes think it limiting? Do you find hollow forms intriguing yet intimidating? Would you like to meet the turner who won first place in the fall AAW contest for turning a lidded box with a finial? Meet Travis Stinson! Travis will be the featured demonstrator at our regular meeting on January 27.

Travis hails from Brookhaven, Mississippi, and is a member of the Magnolia Woodturners. He has enjoyed woodworking for a number of years. He bought a small lathe for the specific purpose of turning some spindles for a plant stand he was making for his wife. That was in 2003. He quickly became an avid and highly skilled turner. His machines of choice now are a Powermatic 3520A and a Jet Variable Speed Mini Lathe. To see some of his exquisite work, go to

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

Travis has developed a hollowing rig to fit the Jet Mini. Think of the Jamieson system, only smaller. This will be the focus of the demo he will present to our club. Travis will turn a hollow form, start to finish, using his self-designed system. He will explain how he created the rig and answer questions about its construction. This will undoubtedly be an enlightening demonstration that will offer useful information for new and seasoned turners alike.

Travis has graciously agreed to serve as the non-MSWG member of the committee that will prepare the guild show at Christian Brothers University in August 2007. His expertise is appreciated for that occasion and for the January demonstration.



Winning lidded box with finial.

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

MISSION STATEMENT FOR CBU SHOW by Bill Siler

It is our goal to display a broad variety of turned forms, forms that reflect the many specialized techniques and skills that turners bring to the lathe.

- To display utilitarian items that reflect historical roots in turning useful things and that also embody the pleasing design elements that shade the functional toward the artistic.
- To display nonfunctional turned objects that succeed mostly on the strength of their artistry, without significant ties to any other use or function.
- To focus primarily on use of the lathe for design and artistic expression, although turnings that have been altered through carving, texturing, manipulation, incorporation into non turned items, etc, are eligible.
- To demonstrate that artistic creativity and design excellence are within the grasp of the professional and the amateur artist alike. To spread the idea that the production of art and the appreciation of art are more accessible than people might think.
- To remind people that wood is one of our most enduring and satisfying art media, that wood is deeply pleasing to see, touch, and hold.



President's Corner

By Sandi Speier

Happy New Year! As we ring in 2007 we say good-bye to several former Board Members: Mike Kelly, Chuck Ludwigsen and Ryan McMullen. Thanks to each for their service, dedication and commitment to the advancement of our club. While we hate to see these gentlemen leave the ranks of front line leadership, the good news is they will remain loyal club advocates, and will be "behind the scenes" assisting in our club growth and development. Thank you Mike, Chuck and Ryan!

A second round of thanks to our Board members who elected to remain on the front lines...Keith Burns, Bob Speier, Joan Kelly and Matt Garner. Thank you for hanging in with us and for all the hours you will continue to invest in our search for excellence.

Last year as I contemplated the first President's Corner of my tenure as Club President, I editorialized a bit about hobbies and having fun. As we venture in to 2007 I hope you won't mind if I repeat myself just a bit... Many of us work hard at woodturning, but most of us aren't going to a job, mowing the lawn or cleaning the house. So whether a hobbyist or professional, for the most part woodturning, and our club, is supposed to be fun! So, I propose a few Guiding Principles to keep us on track for having a good time, learning as much as we can and enjoying the fellowship of our woodturning friends and colleagues:

Guiding Principles

- Act with integrity!
- Have a plan!
- Take ownership!
- Focus with passion!
- Show up and never quit!

MSWG MEETING MINUTES

December 9, 2006

The meeting was brought to order by President Cassandra Speier at approximately 10:15 am.

Cassandra welcomed Club and Family Members in attendance.

Agenda Topics:

Cassandra deferred the Committee reports to January due to the day's special occasion. She introduced the attending family members and provided a brief synopsis of the day's activities.

Cassandra thanked all the members for their help during the year. She asked for a volunteer to build a utility caddy for the refreshment table.

President Speier commented on the great instant gallery of Christmas Ornaments. She also told the members of the raffle for the four items donated by the past year's demonstrators: Michael Mocho, Joe Ruminski, Dennis Paullus, and Joel Benson.

Cassandra talked about the AAW online renewal problem. She asked the members to verify that their membership had been accepted if renewed online prior to December.

Cassandra reviewed with the members the upcoming schedule of demonstrations for 2007.

At approximately 10:30 Cassandra adjourned the business portion of the meeting and asked the members to enjoy the Christmas Brunch and fellowship.

After the gift exchange, raffle and a fabulous meal the Christmas party was adjourned.

Submitted by Robert G Speier, Secretary MSWG

- Do not blame or judge!
- Pitch in!
- Be big - not little!
- Laugh and celebrate!
- Be grateful!

We have a great 2007 planned starting out with professional turners Travis Stinson in January, John Lucas from Nashville in February, and Binh Pho in August. In addition, will add several 'guest' turners from the surrounding area clubs, names to be determined as we finalize plans. And of course, plan to have several demonstrations presented by our MSWG colleagues. In August we have the

Christian Brother's exhibition, which will be great public recognition for the club and a wonderful opportunity to showcase our individual and collective talents! Finally, we have a couple of other "fun" events in the works, and of course we'll hold our great Octoberfest and fun Christmas Party... so great learning and fun opportunities upcoming.

It looks to be a great year... keep the chips flying!

Shop Talk

..... Steve Van Voorst

By Don Wilcut



I visited Steve's shop today and was very impressed at the quality of his turning with just a couple of years experience. "I have always known that I wanted to work with wood" says Steve "but with my medical career, woodworking had to be put on hold." It was last year that Steve retired as a General Surgeon from the VA Medical Center in Memphis, ending a thirty three year career in the operating room in Colorado, Florida and Tennessee. When Steve first came to Memphis twenty four years ago, he was one of the first surgeons involved in the Liver Transplant Program. He is currently an Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Tennessee and continues to teach the art of surgery to medical students.

Steve has been turning wood for the past two years, after he and his wife, Debra, visited the Arts and Crafts pavilion at the Mid-South

Fair and was inspired by the woodturning demonstrations of our past President, Hershel Miller, and our past Treasurer, John Stubblefield. (Both excellent turners.) He accepted an invitation to attend the October Turning Festival and spent the entire day watching Chuck Ludwigsen's pen turning demonstration. He then shortly began purchasing woodturning equipment in anticipation of his retirement from surgery. His first and only lathe has been a Jet Variable Speed Mini but he is "eyeing" a Powermatic and his wife states if probably won't be long before one appears in the shop!

Steve joined the Mid-South Woodturners Guild in 2005. This is his first opportunity to be a part of a non-medical organization. From all appearances he is having fun in his new "career". Someone found out that one of his hobbies is computer programming and he says

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 27, 2007

Travis Stinson

February

John Lucas

March

Joan Kelly

August

Bihn Pho

CBU Exhibit

Call a fellow woodturner and visit his/her shop this week.

the next thing he knew, he was the Editor of our monthly newsletter!

Being a fairly new woodturner, he is experimenting with many types of wood. He has turned writing pens from a variety of woods and has successfully sold these at a local retail establishment. Most of his wood has been won at the MSWG raffle and favorites include mesquite, cherry, and walnut.

"If I could change anything about the turning path I have taken, it would be to begin turning much sooner in my life. My goals are to continue to learn more about turning technique and the different types of wood. Eventually, I would like to work on turning larger pieces and have a bigger shop. For now, I am just satisfied with watching the beauty of the wood appear as it is turned and finished."

December ~ Instant Gallery

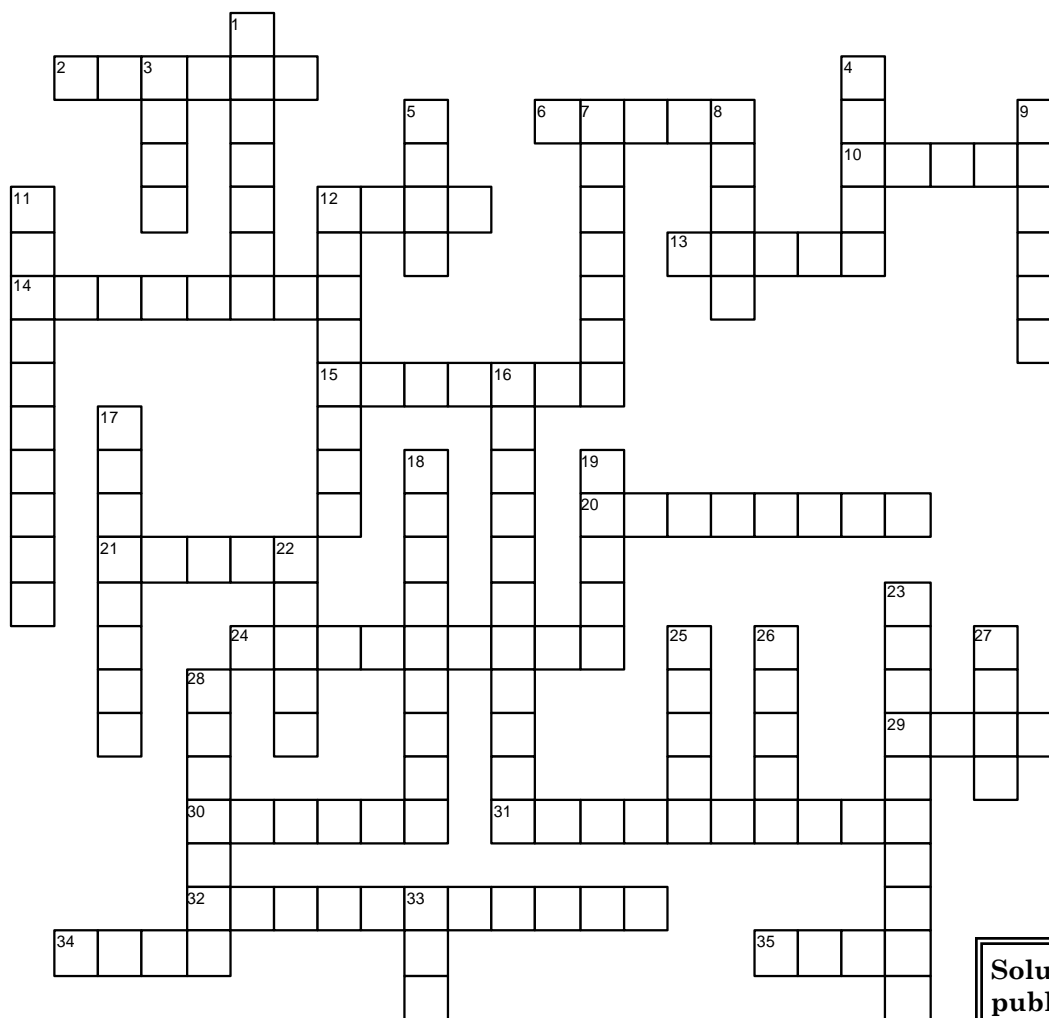


December ~ Instant Gallery



Turner's Crossword

"Understanding Wood" by Bob and Sandi Speier



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

Solution will be published next month.

ACROSS

- 2 Memphis main street
- 6 Wood from this type of tree moves excessively.
- 10 Resin found in soft wood
- 12 The outside of a tree
- 13 Southern dessert topping from this tree.
- 14 Infused with red (2 words)
- 15 Partially decayed wood
- 20 A cross-sectioned surface (2 words)
- 21 All parts of this tree are poisonous
- 24 Trees that lose their leaves annually
- 29 Movement of wood
- 30 A dark, usually fruit bearing, tree

- 31 A popular landscaping tree (2 words)
- 32 Beautiful and dense yellow wood
- 34 Another term for fungi
- 35 Heated chamber

DOWN

- 1 Areas of light colored wood
- 3 Center of the tree
- 4 Groves made up of a single organism
- 5 A unit measurement of wood
- 7 A giant native to California
- 8 Curly figure also known as _____ maple.
- 9 Makes a sweet pie.
- 11 _____ is a manufactured panel product.
- 12 Small circular areas in maple (2 words)
- 16 Tennessee state tree (2 words)
- 17 1904 blight nearly made this tree extinct
- 18 Unit of lumber measurement
- 19 Mesquite is generally found in this state.
- 22 Separation of wood cells
- 23 Same as annual ring (2 words)
- 25 Sap is basically _____ in the tree.
- 26 Microscopic plants
- 27 Woody outgrowth on a tree
- 28 Angels in the woods
- 33 Comes in red and white.

Thank You
to our sponsors!

CRAFT SUPPLIES USA
— THE WOODTURNERS CATALOG —



Wood Chips

www.woodchipshome.com

MSWG Lathe and chucks are
made by



Solution to December's Crossword Puzzle by Larry Sefton.

SOLUTION: ACROSS: 1 crotch, 5 seasoning, 8 burl, 10 shellac, 11 foxing, 13 face, 14 parting, 15 tenon, 16 grit, 20 grain, 21 ogive, 24 chatter, 25 heel, 26 sweep, 27 green, 28 scraper, 30 shake, 32 perpendicular; DOWN: 2 cross-grain, 3 wire, 4 hollow, 6 eccentric, 7 ogee, 9 undercutting, 12 egyptians, 14 polyurethane, 17 lengthwise, 18 platter, 19 figure, 22 natural, 23 bowls, 29 rasp, 31 kerf

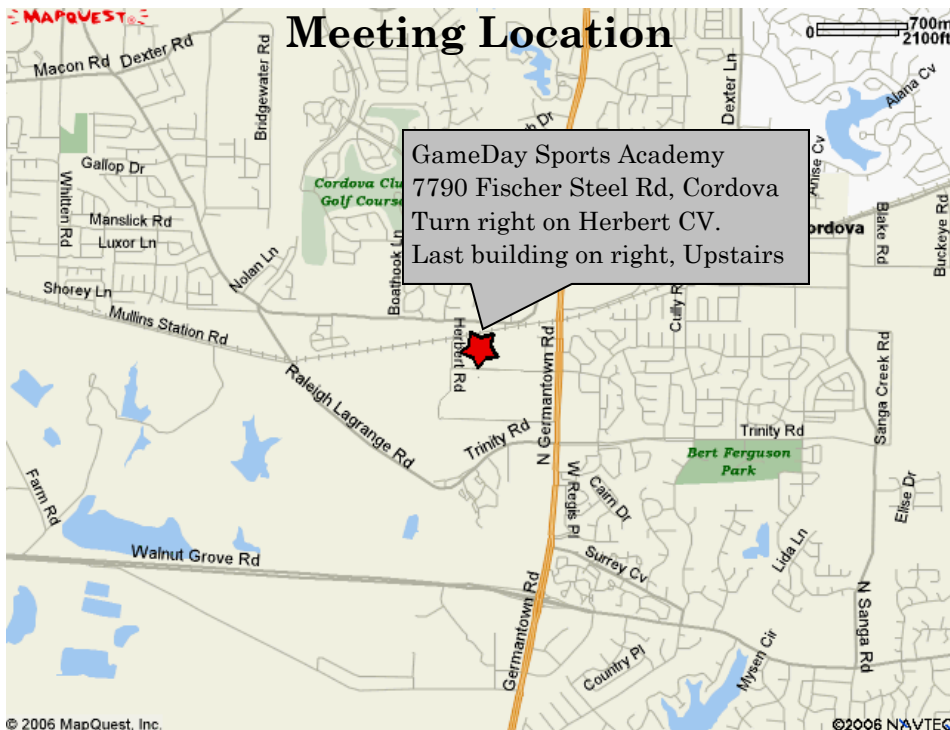
Wood Exchange at January Meeting

Mark Cothren from Conway, AR will be attending the Travis Stinson Demo in January. He has Black Cherry and Walnut that he would like to trade for some different woods. His typical blanks are 12"-15" diameter x 12" tall, but sizes can vary. If anyone has other types of wood that they would like to swap, please bring it to the meeting.

At the December meeting, Larry Sefton was asked by a lot of people for the source of his Christmas ornament display stands:

www.treasuresindisplay.com/ostands.htm

"The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails." - William Arthur Ward



Meeting Format:

Club Business	9:00—9:30 A.M.
Demonstration	9:30—11:30 A.M.
Cleanup	11:30—12:00 P.M.
Raffle	12:00 P.M.

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 anyone and includes a subscription to the monthly newsletter.

Meetings are held on the 4th Saturday of each month at 9:00 A.M. at GameDay Sports Academy, 7790 Fischer Steel Rd, Cordova. Annual dues are \$25.00. Address inquiries about the Mid South Woodturners Guild to *Sandi Speier, 8736 Johannesburg Dr., Germantown, TN 38139*. Please send newsletter items to *Steve Van Voorst (svanvoorst@aol.com)* and website items to *Chuck Ludwigsen (chuck@ludwigsen.org)*.

**Mid South Woodturners Guild
c/o Sandi Speier
8736 Johannesburg Dr.
Germantown, TN 38139**

(Mailing Label)