



# Turner's Talk



Steve Van Voorst, Editor

## \*\* John Lucas to Demo in February \*\*



Platter with routed inlay

**John Lucas**, from Baxter, Tennessee, who has written articles for numerous woodturning magazines and has demonstrated at several symposiums including the AAW National Symposium, will be the special guest of MSWG on February 24. His demo will be a day-long event and promises to hold the attention of turners of all skill levels with a variety of projects and points of interest.

Like many turners, John started turning when he needed turned parts for his flat work. In his case, he used an electric drill to make knobs for some cabinets. He continued turning when he purchased a Shopsmith. His early work was mostly segmented mainly because the Shopsmith could cut the lumber for the parts. He admits that he had no idea one could turn green wood until he became associated with Tennessee Tech University and through them discovered

the Appalachian Center for Crafts. In 1990 he attended his first woodturning symposium where the speakers were Rude Osolnik, John Jordan, Betty Scarpino and others. In his words, "I was blown away and started doing more turning than flat work."

John's greatest artistic inspirations are not turners. They are Ansel Adams, photographer, and Frank Lloyd Wright, architect. He appreciates the way they approached their art forms by studying all aspects of the work, then, having a reason for their art, they developed their own styles. He does, however, admire the work of a number of turners: Clay Foster because of the way he takes his inspiration and creates really unique work, Binh Pho because he has taken the technical end of the work and added his life experiences to it, and Nick Cook because he makes a living by working hard, teaching, and just being a good guy.

John turns a wide variety of objects and enjoys experimenting with many styles of work. He sells mostly hand mirrors, Christmas ornaments, wine stoppers, and boxes. His current challenge is to turn the world's smallest wooden goblet. He has one under 1/16", but has just made new smaller tools and expects to break that record shortly.

When he is in Memphis, John will demonstrate turning a Banksia pod and different ways to work with Tagua nuts. He will turn a platter with a routed inlay, another of his specialties. How to achieve different cuts from the same tool and how to use the skew will be explored. Finally, he will show how to turn an ornament from freshly cut wood and discuss how to deal with checking and warping.

Again, this will be an all day event and a great learning opportunity for MSWG members.

By Joan Kelly



Ornaments and miniature goblets by John Lucas



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



# MSWG MEETING MINUTES

January 27, 2007

## President's Corner

By Sandi Speier

### **The Truth About Trees – Did You Know?**

Darwin called the ginkgo tree a "living fossil." It is one of the first land plants, and has survived virtually unchanged since the mid-Paleozoic age. The Chinese planted ginkgo trees next to imperial buildings and temples, believing that the trees would protect against fire. In their traditional medicine, ginkgo leaves are used to improve memory, and modern research has proved this true. Some ginkgo trees have lived over 1000 years - and some survived the atomic blast in Hiroshima with no deformities.

### **Fellowship**

Webster's Dictionary defines fellowship as 'a friendly feeling that exists between people who have a shared interest or are doing something as a group.'

With fellowship as one of our key club goals, I say after our last meeting we are achieving our goal...what a great meeting! What was so great one might ask?

- Level of enthusiasm and interest!
- Great turning demonstration Joan Kelly !
- Real progress reported to the members on the August exhibition at Christian Brothers University
- Positive and supportive questions, comments and feedback from lots of members!
- Many e-mails from club members since the meeting sharing information, appreciation and suggestions
- Eight visitors and two new members!

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The meeting was brought to order by President Cassandra Speier at approximately 9:00 am.

Cassandra welcomed Club Members and introduced the Visitors. Cassandra also introduced new Members: Ginger Magouirk, Dan Patton, Ken Reeder and Donald Smith.

Cassandra informed the members that the scheduled demonstrator, Travis Stinson, had canceled due to personal reasons and Club Member Joan Kelly would be filling in.

### **Agenda Topics:**

Cassandra asked for a motion of the minutes posted in the newsletter, which was given and seconded.

**Finance:** Bob Speier provided the members a financial report, which recapped the year 2006. The bank balance as of 1/01/2007 was \$2,344.74. He also provided the members with information regarding a budget, which had been formulated for 2007. Cassandra called for a motion to approve, which was given and seconded.

**Donations:** Keith Burns reported that Packard had donated 5 gift certificates to MSWG, and one would be put in the raffle for the current month.

**Other:** Joan Kelly reported on the CBU Exhibition.

**Old Business:** President Speier introduced the new Board to the Members, which included: President Cassandra Speier, 1st VP Keith Burns, 2nd VP Joan Kelly, Secretary Bob Speier, Treasurer Matt Garner, Board Member/Librarian Bob Hobbs and Board Member/Programs Larry Sefton.

Cassandra thanked volunteers, especially Don Wilcut who has helped both on the gallery and writing the "ShopTalk" articles for the newsletter.

Cassandra requested the **President's Challenge for February** be **Tops**. She explained to the members the board had decided to collect tops for local charitable organizations hoping to get more involved in the community. Different categories would be set up and included: Snap-twist, Pull-string, and Throw Tops. She also informed the members contests would be held at the March meeting.

**New Business:** Cassandra talked about the upcoming demos: February John Lucas, March Cassandra Speier and April would be a Swap Meet in the parking lot of GameDay. The Woodworkers, Scrollers and the Carvers would be invited to attend as well.

Bob Speier informed the members that Klingspor had requested their membership list to enroll the club in the Klingspor Club Membership. He stated discounts would be given to members and donations given to the club if MSWG participated. No one objected, however, it was suggested that Bob send an e-mail to those that were not in attendance.

The meeting was turned over to Joan Kelly for the monthly demonstration at approximately 9:30 am. Joan demonstrated how to carve spirals in turned pieces.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am. After cleanup, the monthly raffle was held downstairs at the GameDay entrance.

*Submitted by Robert G Speier, Secretary MSWG*

# Shop Talk

## My Second Trip to John C. Campbell Folk School

By Don Wilcut



The second trip to John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, N. C. was much more enjoyable than the one a couple of years ago. That trip, taken with Laura, Bob and Sandi Speier was because Bob had won a woodturning scholarship and I had told him I would be happy to go with him when he chose to go. I had some disagreements with the school; especially the dining facility and we were not going back. All that was resolved and we chose to return for a clay class for Laura.

The woodturners were in the new 'Willard Baxter' woodturning studio during our classes. The class I elected to take was a beginner's class, because Laura wanted to attend a clay class, and the woodturning beginner's class was all that was available. It was a little boring at first, relearning beads, coves and sharpening, but after the beginners were started I was able to go on with my stuff. The instructor had no assistant since the class was only 6 turners, and I could see he needed some help. Therefore, at his request, I evolved into an assistant. I made sure I didn't get into the "instruction" phase too far. In accordance with school policy, I did not use the band saw or the chain saw.



The new studio is something to see and experience. It contains at least 10 new 'B' model assembled Powermatic lathes, 2 Oneway 1224 lathes that were not being used and at least 10 Jet mini lathes in the process of being assembled. They have three fine dust extraction systems mounted at the ceiling and the Main dust/chip is ready to be installed outside on a cement slab. The manufacturer will do that installation.



Overall it was an interesting trip, and with the changes in place we will be going back to John C. Campbell Folk School for more classes. I recommend that if you haven't been, go, and if you have been, by all means, go again.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

February

John Lucas

March

Sandi Speier

April

Swap Meet

August

Bihn Pho

CBU Exhibit

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**Solution to January's Cross-  
word Puzzle by Bob and Sandi.**

**SOLUTION: ACROSS:** 2 poplar, 6 fruit, 10 pitch, 12 bark, 13 pecan, 14 boxelder, 15 spalted, 20 end-grain, 21 sumac, 24 deciduous, 29 warp, 30 walnut, 31 riverbirch, 32 osageorange, 34 mold, 35 kiln;  
**DOWN:** 1 sapwood, 3 pith, 4 aspen, 5 cord, 7 redwood, 8 tiger, 9 cherry, 11 fiberboard, 12 birdseye, 16 tulippoplar, 17 chestnut, 18 boardfoot, 19 texas, 22 check, 23 growthring, 25 water, 26 fungi, 27 burl, 28 dogwood, 33 oak

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



# January ~ Instant Gallery



Glen Alexander



Keith Burns



John Ginski



Bob Hobbs - Cherry



Howard Malone



Brad McCollum



Dennis Paullus



Terry Reynolds - Maple



Dennis Paullus - Oak burr



Bill Shaw



Terry Reynolds - Bradford Pear



Larry Sefton & Joan Kelly

# January ~ Instant Gallery



Bill Shaw



Bill Siler - Hackberry



Bob Speier



Sandi Speier



Cliff Valentine



Steve Van Voorst



Steve Van Voorst - Persimmon



Steve Van Voorst - Cherry



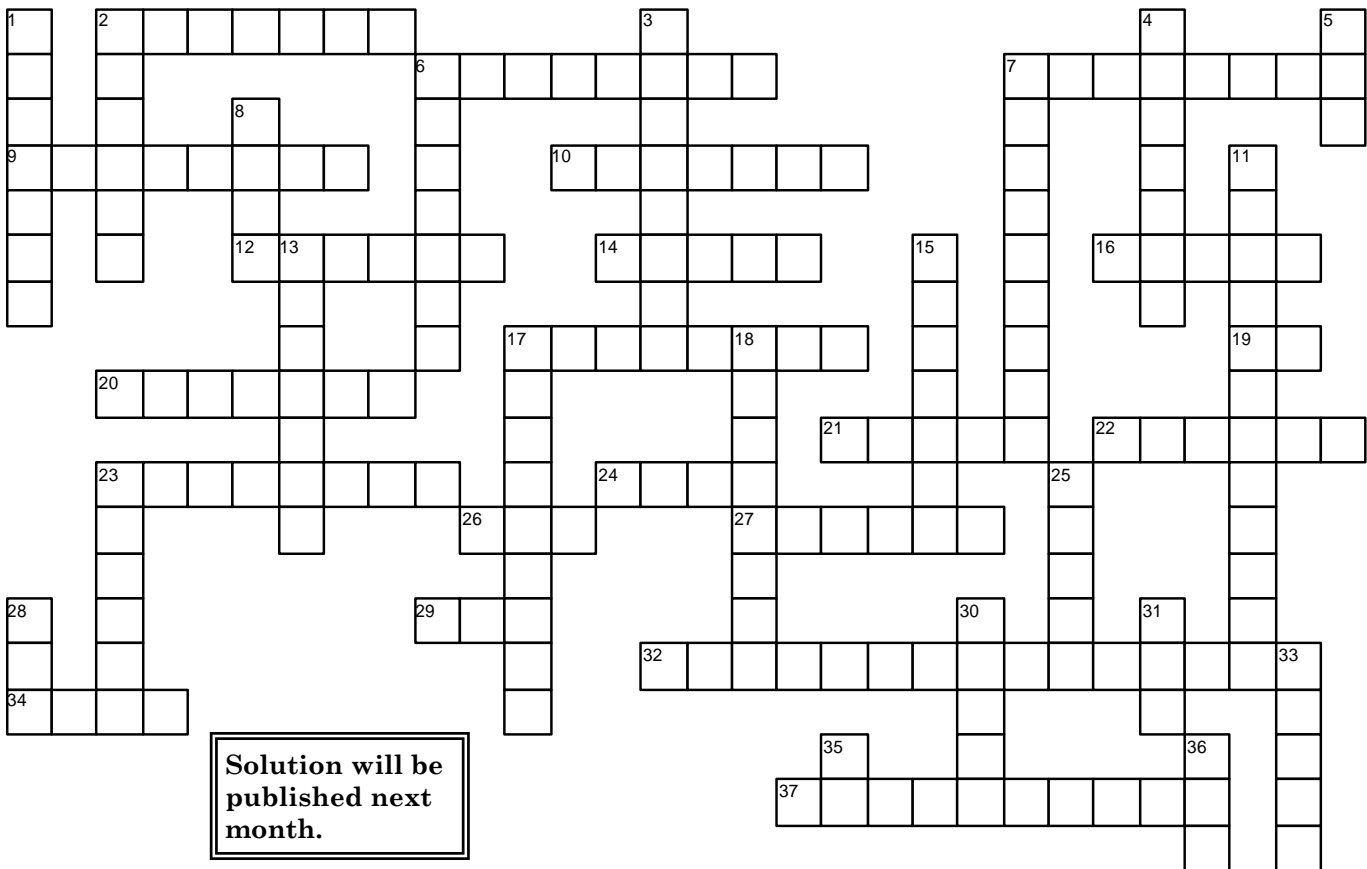
John Williams

## January Demo - "Spirals" by Joan Kelly



# Turner's Crossword

by Emmett Manley



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

## ACROSS

- 2 Toxic chemical in wild cherry tree
- 6 Brilliant white bark
- 7 Mild oxidizing bleach
- 9 Major chainsaw concern
- 10 Flaxseed oil, may be used in nutrition
- 12 British term for tenon
- 14 Tree associated with chewing gum
- 16 This wood is white to ivory
- 17 Traditional device to determine vertical (2 words)
- 19 May need to protect wood from these wavelengths
- 20 Vibrating pattern
- 21 Very strong two part adhesive
- 22 Indian name for black gum
- 23 9 on a hardness (Mohr) scale of 1-10

- 24 Used to split wood along the grain
- 26 Makes a task easier
- 27 Grows mainly on north side of oak trees
- 29 \_\_\_\_ Chuck
- 32 Vine with compound leaves of five leaflets (2 words)
- 34 Specific gravity of 0.25

## DOWN

- 1 Strong flexible wood, but rots quickly on the ground
- 2 360 degrees
- 3 Also known as Ironwood or Musclewood
- 4 Bark is small rectangles
- 5 Color providing another name for sweet gum
- 6 Least dense wood
- 7 Vine with compound leaves of three

leaflets (2 words)

- 8 White oak wood characteristics
- 11 Type of glue which expands to fill gaps (Gorilla Glue)
- 13 \_\_\_\_\_ Tool
- 15 Toxic dye in black walnut
- 17 Aroma of pepper when turned
- 18 Ashleaf maple
- 23 Area of revolving cylinder with minimal velocity
- 25 Aromatic and beautiful native wood
- 28 This insect's secretions used to finish wood
- 30 Seeks its own level
- 31 Small conifer used in cancer chemotherapy
- 33 90 degree angle
- 35 Multiply diameter by this to obtain circumference
- 36 Dutch \_\_\_\_\_ Disease



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### Collaboration

The world of woodworking is a relatively small community and the various “venues”...turning, flat work, scrolling, etc. overlap in many ways. As such, me and a few other club members have been seeking ways in which to increase the collaboration between the Memphis-area “woodworking” clubs. Last year for MSWG’s Octoberfest meeting we invited the woodworkers, the carvers and the scrollers to exhibit their various wares. Each club accepted the invitation and we had a great demon-

stration! At the April meeting MWSG is sponsoring a “swap meet” at Game Day and, again to encourage collaboration between the clubs, we are inviting the woodworkers, the carvers and the scrollers to join us. So, Bob & I are making the rounds to various club meetings to demonstrate our support for their activities and to make personal invitations to their respective members to join us at the swap meet. So far we have gotten very positive responses.

Our February meeting is looking to be a great meeting with John Lu-

cas demonstrating his talents. We hope to add several other regional club demonstrators for our 2007 schedule as yet one more effort to increase collaboration within the woodworking community.

Have a great February...see you soon! Keep the sawdust flying!

**‘Whoever is happy will make others happy too!’ ...Anne Frank**

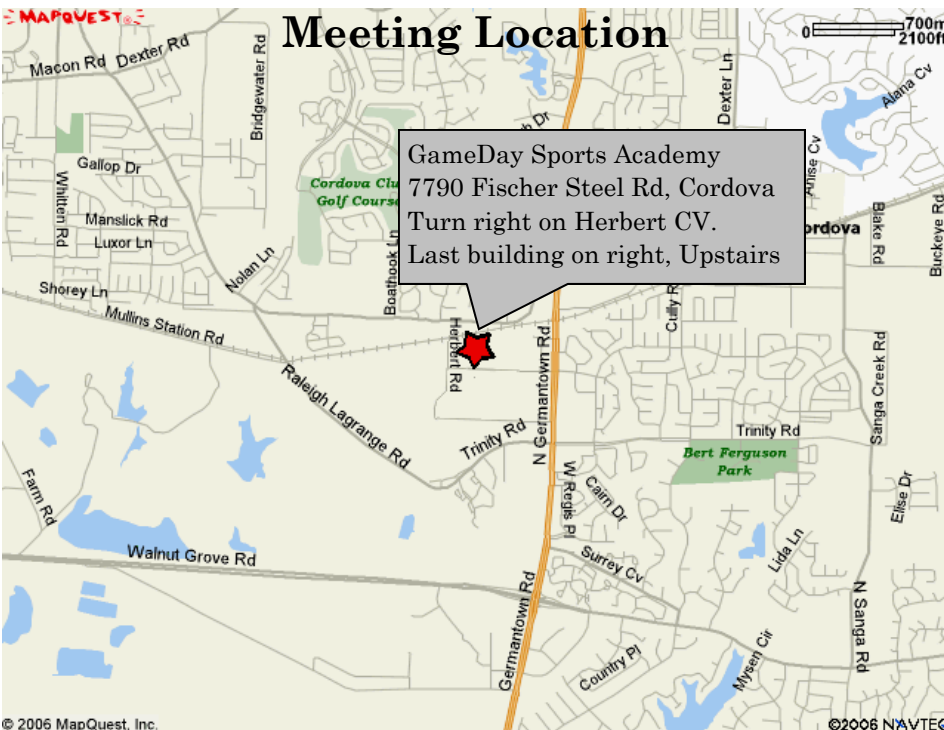
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<b>Meeting Format:</b>	
Club Business	9:00—9:30 A.M.
Demonstration	9:30—11:30 A.M.
Cleanup	11:30—12:00 P.M.
Raffle	12:00 P.M.

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 Ludwigen (chuck@ludwigen.org)*.

**Mid South Woodturners Guild  
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(Mailing Label)