



Turner's Talk



Chuck Ludwigsen, Editor

** April: Turn-Out @ Joel Benson's **

HEADLINE NEWS

• Location

A map to Joel Benson's shop is on page 6. The May meeting will return to the Gameday site.

• AAW Symposium

The 2006 AAW Symposium in Louisville is fast approaching. Save on admission and hotels by signing up early. If you do, you could stand a chance for great prizes—like one of 5 Oneway 2436 lathes.

Michael Mocho in Memphis

By Sandi Speier

MWSG's March-06 regular meeting was "re-vamped" this month to include a two-day demonstration by one of the most accomplished professional woodturners in the country: Michael Mocho!

Michael is a self-employed artisan producing a variety of original designs including sculptural containers, commissioned furniture, architectural elements, and speculative works for exhibition. Technical services include contract woodturning, custom furniture, architectural millwork, prototype development, and product fabrication. Since 1997 he has been an instructor at the Santa Fe Community College Fine Woodworking Program. His background includes restoration and adjustment of violins, violas, cellos, basses, man-

dolins, and guitars; production of one-of-a-kind furniture, carved doors, architectural woodwork, patterns for metal casting, large-scale sculpture in wood, glass, metal and stone; and antique restoration, furniture construction and repair. Clearly a multi-talented artist!

The weekend began with a focus on the basics of spindle work. Michael impressed on the audience the importance of "the woodturner's sway or dance". One's body must not be static or immobile when turning and your arms should not be what really moves the tool. Body stance should be balanced, relaxed, slightly bent at the knee, and "sway" as back and forth or around the piece of work on the lathe. This decreases body rotation and changes in the tool/bevel angle and will keep the tool moving consistently over the work producing a smooth and even cut. Michael stated the

Three Rules for tool control and smooth cuts: 1) rub the bevel; 2) rub the bevel; and 3) rub the bevel.

Michael is a master of the skew chisel and he demonstrated its proper use. He began with a rather unusual hand grip: the left index finger

(Continued on page 2)



President's Corner:

By Sandi Speier

Greetings to all! Let me take a moment to say, "Did we have a great March meeting or what?" What made it so great? Member turnout, enthusiasm, and morale, and of course, the two-day demonstration by Michael Mocho! And, as a result of the great meeting we recruited a new member...Kathy Troughton, wife of Ben Troughton. Welcome, Kathy!

Over the past several months, we've had quite a bit of discussion concerning why it is important to be both a member of our local chapter and a member of The American Association of Woodturners (AAW). So, I thought I'd devote this month's President's Corner to this topic.

What is AAW?

"The AAW is an international, nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of woodturning. Our mission is to provide education, information and organization to those interested in turning wood." The AAW woodturning membership is now more

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Wood Chips

www.woodchipshome.com

MSWG Lathe and chucks are made by

ONEWAY
MANUFACTURING

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



MSWG MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 2006

President Cassandra Speier called the General Meeting to order at 9:00 am. Cassandra asked for an approval of the previous meetings minutes as posted in the newsletter. The Members approved the minutes.

Committee Reports

Finance: Ryan McMullen provided a detail report of the finances, which were approved, and post on the bulletin board.

Old Business – Delta Lathe

President Speier informed the members the Board had received a check in the amount of \$1000 from Hershel Miller for the sale of the lathe. She also informed the members a letter of appreciation had already been sent out. Cassandra stated the ordeal had been brought to an end hoped Hershel would return as member of the club he helped start and served for so long.

Meeting

Cassandra turned the meeting over to Mike Kelly who introduced Michael Mocho, the demonstrator for the weekend.

Michael provided interesting and informative lessons about chattering, turning techniques and the use of the Spiraling Tool. He demos were greatly appreciated by the members.

During the weekend numerous raffles were held for the great pieces brought by the members. Bob Speier also informed the member's shirts and hats could now be ordered.

The weekend was adjourned Sunday after noon at approximately 4:00 pm.

Submitted by: Robert Speier, Secretary

(Continued from page 1): Michael Mocho is placed under the tool rest and around the post, and the left thumb rests on top of the tool rest to support and balance the tool. This grip will help to avoid those nasty catches we all love. Michael reminded us that "a catch = an unsupported edge." This grip is also appropriate for gouges, too.

Michael demonstrated various methods for texturing wood: 1) Chatter work using the skew and spindle gouge. Chatter occurs when the tool begins to "bounce" on the wood. With the wood spinning at a relatively slow RPM and moving the tool rest away from the wood, the skew is presented at the 7:30 position and drawn across the spinning wood. Slower RPMs will create patterns with more detail. Commercial chatter tools are available. but Michael demonstrated that almost any tool can produce chatter—intentionally or, as I am ac-

customed, unintentionally. 2) Embossing using leather punches and producing very intricate patterns. 3) Spiraling tool to produce beautiful varied spiral designs. This tool is temperamental and challenging to use, but with practice and perseverance will add unique patterns to your work. As in chatter work, angle of the tool determines the intricacy of the pattern. The tool is used at a slow RPM to produce a clean pattern and to keep the teeth of the cutting gear from skipping.



Raffle Challenge!

We're challenging everyone to bring something for the raffle! Thank you to our company sponsors: Craft Supplies USA, Packard Woodworks and Wood Chips.

The February raffle brought in **\$204⁰⁰** for the club plus an additional **\$20⁰⁰** for the auction of the tool handle that Bob Speier donated.

Thank you

Members who donated

Ryan McMullen
Billy Tignor
John Williams
Ray Hailey
John Johnson
Chuck Ludwigen
Craft Supplies USA
Wood Chips

Lending Library

The Mid South Woodturners Guild is fortunate to have a wide selection of videos and books covering every facet of the woodturning craft. If you are a **club member**, visit the lending table and take advantage of the information available. You may check out up to three videos per month. All items must be returned the next month. If you are unable to make the next meeting, please contact Ryan McMullen at 201-1501 to arrange to get them to him in advance. Checkout will start at the end of the business meeting.

Michael kept us entertained with his subtle humor and his obvious love of teaching. His two-day demonstration was focused on understanding the mechanics of tool use stating frequently "fortune favors the prepared man."

Michael reminded us all "your 200th bowl will be better than your first bowl. It is very hard to turn your 200th bowl first, so enjoy the journey."

It was a great weekend, we learned a lot and everyone had a great time!

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Shop Shots

..... Larry Marley



spindle gouge and his favorite woods to turn are Pecan and Walnut.

He is learning to use the skew more since he can already use the majority of his tools fairly well. As with most turners, the skew requires some time to tame.

After taking a beginner's class by Dick Absher, he became more interested and proficient in 'wasting' wood. He joined the MSWG and the AAW and has been a member since 1998.

Larry retired from the State Of Tennessee where he worked for the Department of Children's Services in Protective Services, Utilization and Placement. He retired mainly for health reasons.

Larry says he has always been interested in wood turning. He would see things that had been turned and wondered how it was done. In 1996, he bought a Dura Crest lathe at a carport sell. The Dura looked a lot like the old Sears lathe. He purchased a video at Colco's and, while using this video, sort of figured out how to put some things on the lathe and turn between centers. His second lathe was a Grizzly and then he purchased a Delta.

He now has a Powermatic 3520 and can turn most anything he desires. He bought the Powermatic since he especially likes turning bats and other long items. His favorite turning tool is the

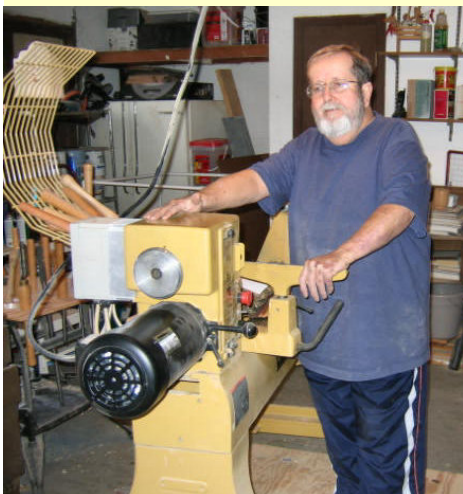
Direct Quote. "I joined the club because I knew little about wood turning and wanted to learn. I have learned everything I know about woodturning by attending the meetings and other programs provided by the club. Over



the past years I have watched the club grow and change. In the beginning there were a lot of people like my self who were learning from the more experienced turners. I would like to express my appreciation to all who have given demonstrations in order that others may learn from their own experiences. My goals are to develop my skills to a higher level. I seem to want to rush projects and find that is often not good. I really enjoy wood turning and being part of the club."

He doesn't know a lot he would change with his turning career except turn more and get better.

By Don Wilcut



APRIL 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Board	20	21	22 MSWG
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MAY 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Board	18	19	20 MSWG
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Holiday	30	31			

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 22nd: **Monthly Meeting**
9:00-12:00 Turning @ Joel Benson's Shop

May 20th: **Monthly Meeting (3rd Sat)**
9:00-12:00 **Brad McCollum**

June 17th: **Monthly Meeting (3rd Sat)**
9:00-12:00 **Chuck Ludwigen, Peppermills**

July 22nd: **Monthly Meeting**

August 26th-27th: **Guest Turner**
September 23rd: **Monthly Meeting**
October 28th: **Turning Fest**
November 18th: **Monthly Meeting (3rd Sat)**
December 9th: **Christmas Party**

March ~ Instant Gallery



Keith Burns



Keith Burns



Dennis Paullus



Michael Mocho



Dennis Paullus



Steve Yeomans



Dennis Paullus



Joan Kelly



Sandi Speier



Steve Yeomans



Joan Kelly



Dennis Paullus



Larry Sefton



Mike Kelly



Sandi Speier



Steve Yeomans



John Williams

Michael Mocho



(Continued from page 1) *President's Corner*
 than 11,400 strong! These numbers, in part, speak for themselves.

Benefits of AAW Membership

- National membership connects you with the larger audience of turners throughout North America as well as the world.
- Member Rates – special rates for publications, videos, and symposium registration.
- Access to the AAW Resource Directory: 400+ pages of information related to:
 - Lathe and Safety Guide - Great for new and experienced woodturners alike, as safety must be first and foremost every time one picks up a tool.
 - Wood Toxicity and Wood Identification – This will assist every turner to manage allergy-like reactions to certain wood types by being informed and prepared. It also provides a wealth of information on the various properties and peculiarities of different wood species.

- Professional Directory: A list of AAW demonstrators, plus lists of professional turners, teachers, writers, collectors and gallery owners/managers. This resource guide is valuable to all levels of turners as one seeks professional turners for club education, lessons, and possible outlets to sell or display your work.
- List of Affiliated Local Chapters – 253 chapters across North America offering monthly meetings, demonstrations, and a community of woodturning friends with lots of experience and free advice.
- Educational Grants – AAW members are eligible for grants to expand your woodturning knowledge and improve your skills.
- Best Demonstrated Practices – Located on the AAW website and where you will find vast information related to such topics as: “Starting a New Chapter”, “Volunteerism”, “Guidelines for Critiquing Work”, etc.
- Membership Directory – In alpha-

betical order or by state, province and/or country.

- A comprehensive list of videos, books, and publications on woodturning
- American Woodturner Magazine– “The most informative and widely read publication in the world” related specifically to the education and art of woodturning. This quarterly publication is filled with great articles from the basics and functional to the “art and eclectics” of woodturning.

But by far, in my humble opinion, the most important reason to be a member of AAW is the connection to the greater world of woodturning. Seeking knowledge is an art form in and of itself, and so no matter how humble or lofty your woodturning goals, having access to the world of colleagues, teachers, vendors, and the art world will enrich your sheer enjoyment of taking the gift of wood and “turning” it into art. AAW is a great resource and partner to assist the woodturner in reaching his/her greatest potential.

*Sandi Speier
 President*

"Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence."

Abigail Adams - 1780

Map to Joel Benson's House/Shop



CLASSIFIED ADS:

Please forward your items for sale, trade, or giveaway to **Chuck Ludwigsen** (chuck@ludwigsen.org) or call (901) 485-4851. Items will be published in the newsletter for one month only unless you let us know that it is still available. Deadline for entry is the 5th of each month.

~~~~~  
 Shopsmith Mark V-510  
 Complete Unit w/Bandsaw and  
 Jointer. All lathe, tablesaw, drill,  
 sanding disk, bandsaw, jointer  
 components included. \$1400 obo.  
**Chuck Ludwigsen 485-4851**  
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 4" ShopSmith Jointer w/power  
 stand & cart with wheels. Hardly  
 used. \$295.

**Bob Speier 756-9315**  
**Or [robtspieir@aol.com](mailto:robtspieir@aol.com)**



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 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month at 9:00 am at 5790 Ferguson Rd, in Bartlett. 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 and web site items to *Chuck Ludwigsen* ([chuck@ludwigsen.org](mailto:chuck@ludwigsen.org)).

### Meeting Format:

|                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| <b>Club Business:</b> | 9:00-9:30am   |
| <b>Demonstration:</b> | 9:30-11:30am  |
| <b>Raffle:</b>        | 11:30-12:00pm |
| <b>Cleanup:</b>       | 12:00pm       |

## *AAW ~ "Return to the Community"*

*During our AAW Symposium each year, we have a "return to the community" project. This year in Louisville, we will collect Christmas ornaments.*

*They will be delivered to Kosair Children's Hospital in Louisville. Each year the hospital collects ornaments and decorated trees and auctions them or sells them outright to raise money. Last year they raised almost \$400,000 to help the kids in need.*

*All AAW local chapters are urged to turn as many Christmas ornaments as they can and either bring them to the symposium or mail them to*

*Greg Streif  
 7308 Abbott Glen Dr.  
 Crestwood, Ky, 40014  
 ([gregstreif@insightbb.com](mailto:gregstreif@insightbb.com))*



**Sandy Speier—President**

### 2006 Board

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| <b>President:</b> | <b>Sandi Speier</b>    |
| <b>1st VP:</b>    | <b>Mike Kelly</b>      |
| <b>2nd VP:</b>    | <b>Chuck Ludwigsen</b> |
| <b>Secretary:</b> | <b>Bob Speier</b>      |
| <b>Treasurer:</b> | <b>Ryan McMullen</b>   |
| <b>Member:</b>    | <b>Keith Burns</b>     |
| <b>Member:</b>    | <b>Joan Kelly</b>      |



## **SPECIALS**

**April 15<sup>th</sup> thru 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**15% OFF All Turning Tools**  
**20% OFF Turning Books**  
**20% OFF Pen Blanks, Bowl**  
**Blanks, and**  
**Turning Squares**

**2 Delta Midi Lathes @ \$292.99 ea**  
**(formerly \$334.59)**

2631 Jackson Ave.  
Memphis, TN 38108  
Phone: (902) 452-9663 Fax: (901) 452-0277  
E-mail: colco@colcofinewoods.com  
Monday—Friday 8:00AM—5:00PM  
Saturday 9:00AM—12:00 noon



## **Class Schedule**

8500 Wolf Lake Drive Suite #1  
Bartlett, TN 38133  
Phone: 901/755-7355 Fax: 901/755-2907  
E-mail- ddean@thewoodworkshopinc.com

Mid South Woodturners Guild  
C/O Sandi Speier  
8736 Johannesburg Dr  
Germantown, TN 38139

