

September 2004 Newsletter
From Wes Jones,
President
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September Meeting

This month's GAW meeting will be at 7:00 pm on Thursday, September 16 at Highland Hardware. Our program will be by Howard Cutter on how to effectively photograph your work.

Turning Southern Style X Symposium

It's almost time for the symposium. This year it will be on October 1-3 and it will be held at the Unicoi State Park and Lodge near Helen, GA as usual. Full information is on our website. We're looking forward to a great weekend of woodturning. If you haven't registered yet, see Jim Hutchinson. And be sure to bring several pieces for the auction. The symposium auction is the major money maker for our club and pays for all our scholarships and the great international demonstrators we have throughout the year.

Dick Hayes, Symposium Chairman, is currently signing up volunteers to help with the many jobs necessary to put on the weekend-long event. See Dick at the meeting or call him at 770 592-0465 and volunteer to help.

GAW Educational Project

We have been invited by the Georgia Heritage Center for the Arts in Tallulah Falls, GA to put on an educational woodturning display. This is an excellent opportunity to show people what woodturning is all about and advertise our club. Bill Cook, who sells his work through the Heritage Center, has agreed to coordinate and manage this display for us. The display will run Oct 3 – Nov 30. We will have live woodturning demonstrations on several weekends. If you would like to volunteer to turn on a mini-lathe, please contact one of the officers. We will also have exhibits, videos, and photographs of the woodturning process.

In conjunction with the exhibit, we have been invited to place woodturnings on display and for sale. Members are invited to each put 3 pieces in the show. These pieces should be larger woodturnings like bowls, platters, vessels, etc. - rather than small items like pens or bottle stoppers. The Heritage Center appreciates our participation and has agreed to take only a 30% commission on our items that it sells. Depending on how many members respond, we may adjust the 3 piece per member guideline. There will be a signup sheet at the meeting for those that wish to sell pieces in the show. Pieces can be delivered to the gallery Sunday afternoon after the symposium concludes.

AAW Educational Opportunity Grant

Several months ago we applied for an Educational Opportunity Grant from the AAW. We have just received notification that they have awarded us \$1000 to cover the cost of the wireless sound

system we recently purchased. Our application stated that we planned to purchase the sound system for use at meetings, Saturday demonstrations, and our symposium. We appreciate this grant from AAW. If you are not a member, I recommend you join and support the organization.

Christmas Ornaments

Our oldest GAW tradition after our symposium is the annual Festival of Trees. Every year we make Christmas ornaments and decorate a tree which we donate to the festival which is sponsored by Childrens Healthcare of Atlanta. We have received a lot of ornaments so far, but we need another 60 finished ornaments to complete our tree. And time is running out. Please bring in your ornaments to the meeting and put them in the collection box.

From the AAW

John Hill, chapter liaison for AAW, advises that:

During the Orlando AAW Symposium, Delta International Machinery donated two new Delta X5 full-size Model #46-756 lathes valued at \$2250 each. They were used as demo lathes during the Symposium. They turn 16" over the steel bed and include the basic machine with 2 HP variable speed 230V motor, drive center, live center, 4" face plate, 12" tool rest and base, knockout bar, wrenches and instruction manual. They turn 42" between centers, have a 1 ¼ x 8 spindle and weigh 386 lbs.

Your chapter can win one of these lathes. The AAW Board of Directors has decided that as an added bonus for our members, that one lathe will be awarded to an individual who either renews his/her AAW membership or joins AAW between September 1, 2004 and January 15, 2005. The winner will be selected by a random drawing from a pool of members joining or renewing during this period. The winner will be called and asked the name of his/her chapter. That chapter will win the other lathe. That could be your chapter. Winners will be responsible for shipping from Orlando.

(Ed. note: If you have already joined AAW for multiple years including 2005, you will automatically be included in the drawing.)

Upcoming Woodturning Symposiums (information available at the meeting)

Georgia Association of Woodturners – Turning Southern Style X October 1-3 Unicoi
Virginia Woodturning Symposium November 6-7 Waynesville
Florida Woodturning Symposium January 14-16 Eustis

Lathe For Sale

Woodfast 20-inch short bed lathe, model #M408H, 1 HP DC variable-speed motor. \$1600 or open to trades. Contact Lee Dale 770 775-0895 dale612@peoplepc.com
Craft Supplies Promotion

This month's Craft Supplies promotion through October 15 is your name free on smocks (\$12 value). To get the promotional price, you must mention Promotion Code 04SPAAW9 when placing your order. See the current Woodturners Catalog or visit them online at www.woodturnerscatalog.com or call (800) 551-8876 for more information.

Craft Supplies has been sending us a \$15 gift certificate for our raffle each month, so let's support them and let them know we appreciate their support of GAW.

Woodturning Schools

The following schools in the Southeast offer classes in woodturning, as well as other arts and crafts. Check out their websites to see the scheduled course offerings.

John C. Campbell Folk School - www.folkschool.org/
Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts - www.arrowmont.org/
Highland Hardware – www.highlandhardware.com/
Appalachian Center for Crafts - <http://craftcenter.tntech.edu/>
The Dogwood Institute – www.dogwoodwoodworking.com/

Woodturning Instructors

We are currently compiling a list of GAW members who give private woodturning instruction in their own shops. If you would like to be included on this list, send an email to Wes Jones, at wesjones@att.net including your email, phone no. and website, if applicable. We will include this listing in future newsletters and on our website.

The following club members have advised that they give private woodturning instruction. Contact them for more information.

Frank Bowers	fcbowrs@aol.com	404 292-1107
Nick Cook	nickcook@earthlink.net	770 421-1212 www.nickcookwoodturner.com
Wes Jones	wesjones@att.net	770 972-6803
Hal Simmons	simmonsh@mindspring.com	770 381-6764
William Yarger	yarger@bellsouth.net	678 232-2779 www.turnedart.com

GAW Calendar

Sep	16	Howard Cutter will do demo at GAW meeting “How to Photograph Your Turnings”
Oct	1-3	Turning Southern Style X Symposium – Unicoi State Park, GA
Oct	21	Dick Sing will do demo at GAW meeting
	22	Dick Sing hands-on workshop 9-4 at Redmond Machinery
	23	Dick Sing will do an all-day demo Saturday 9-4 at Redmond Machinery
Nov	6	Michael Mocho will do an all-day demo Saturday 9-4
Nov	18	Christmas ornament demos on 4 mini-lathes at GAW meeting

entire area, literally the whole outside of the piece, will be sanded.

Now you are ready to inlay. Some suppliers sell turquoise in small, medium, and large grits. You will probably want the small and medium. I actually grind my stones in a dedicated coffee grinder, and then strain them into several sizes. You will spill some stones, so get over paper or a pan large enough to hold your piece. Some designs can be inlaid while the piece is still on the lathe.

A small spoon works good to begin the inlaying process placing the stones in the area to be inlaid. I use several different shapes of dental tools to push stones around and get them lined up in the groove. Stack the stones 1/16" to 1/8" deep and mounded slightly above the surface of the wood; then take thin CA glue and carefully apply small drops methodically along the inlay area. The glue will run all around the stones and fill up the cut, so be sure to have the area being inlaid fairly flat. Do small sections one at a time. You can let each application dry naturally or spray accelerator very lightly. I use the accelerator so I can almost immediately go on to the next section. If the wood is porous, sometimes the thin CA will slowly soak into the wood and you can't seem to get the cut filled to the top. In this case, I will run a small bead of medium CA down the top of the stones and spray lightly with accelerator.

When I have finished the inlay, I like to wait about an hour to make sure everything is locked in tight before sanding. Be sure to use a good mask. Turquoise dust is very bad for your lungs. I use a good tight chemical mask or a full helmet with positive air pressure. I sand very carefully with a coarse grit using 3" diameter pads on my drill. Try to hit only the mounded stone. When most of the elevated stone has been cut down near the surface, I switch to finer grits, 150 & 180 & 220, and carefully finish it out. Keep in mind the stone is several times harder than the wood and you do not want to scallop it. Almost all sanding is done with the lathe off. When it's all sanded and all even, I turn on the lathe and dress the whole surface with 320 & 400 grit sandpaper quickly and carefully.

The stone will wear the sandpaper out fairly fast. I generally use old sandpaper that I kept for that purpose first to just get the sharp edges and glue volume off, and then go to a sharper, newer disc.

Now take your magnification glasses and check the quality of the inlay. You will have some spots with voids. A stone is out or the glue did not get in there solid. Take a thin applicator and cover carefully with a small drop of thin CA. If it's a larger void, add more small grain turquoise and refinish as before.

Now you are ready for the final finish. Sometimes I finish the entire surface of the piece with thick CA using a very dry blue paper towel and a small area at a time. If you do this, be sure to wear a chemical mask or a full face helmet with positive air flow, and get maximum ventilation.

My final finish is one or two coats of Deft lacquer rubbed out with 0000 steel wool.

