

## GAW Newsletter — June 2011

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### Points of Interest

- *Lathe Safety in light of recent accidents—p.2*
- *Changes to GAW Bylaws—p.4*
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### President's Message

The This month's demonstrator is our own Nick Cook who will be demonstrating how to use the skew. Nick is highly skilled with the skew, the tool that probably gives woodturners more problems than any other. If you want to become more accomplished with the skew, this a program you should not miss!

Nick is a nationally known woodturner and resides in Marietta where he owns and operates his studio. He grew up around his father's woodworking equipment and became interested in the art of woodturning in the mid-70s after several years in furniture design and manufacture.

Nick is a founding member of the American Association of Woodturners and served six years on its board of directors, including one as vice president.

In addition to creating one-of-a-kind pieces and his staple gift items, Nick teaches and lectures on various woodturning topics, has written articles for several woodworking magazines, and has produced two woodturning videos.

The primary materials that he now uses are maple, cocobolo, and tagua nuts. He employs a variety of woods, both domestic and exotic, for his one-of-a-kind pieces. Nick's work is marketed in gift shops and galleries from coast to coast and is included in numerous corporate and private collections.

Please see the section on the award-

ing of GAW's first Quiet Stalwart award to Jim Hutchinson later in this newsletter.

In April and May there were two casualties in our woodturning community. One, a Yale student and the other a member of the Mid South Woodturners. The former was due to long hair being caught in the lathe and the second from a large bowl blank which came apart. See the article later in this newsletter for information on turning speed safety. Also included is a chart showing the RPM ranges for various diameters using the 6000-9000 guidelines.

The GAW woodturning exhibit at the Douglasville Cultural Arts Center is rapidly approaching. Linda and I will be at the CAC the afternoon of Sunday, August 28th from 1:00 to 5:00 pm to take in work that can be delivered in person. Linda and I will also take delivery of work at the August meeting. Members that can not make it to the August meeting or hand deliver their work can also mail work to the Cultural Arts Center. More information on mailing your work will appear in the July newsletter.

So far, we have about forty pieces and could use more, so if you have not already signed up to display work, please consider doing so. I will pass around another sign-up sheet at this month's meeting, but if you are not able to make the meetings and would like to display your work, please send me an email with how many pieces you wish to display.

## President's Message—Cont.

Our annual symposium is scheduled for September 16-18 at the Unicoi lodge. The featured turners this year are Cliff Lounsbury, Ernie Newman, Andi Wolfe with supporting turners, Nick Cook, Franck Johansen, Keith Fulmer and Dave Barriger. If you are planning to attend, now is the time to complete your registration. The registration form can be found [here](#). If you need more information before making your decision, the brochure can be found [here](#).

Time is also running out to register for the AAW symposium in Saint Paul. It promises to be a great event. So, if you are thinking of going, now is the time to act!

That is all for this month! See you at the meeting on the 16th.

Steve Pritchard

## Reminders, Items of Interest

### Beth Ireland Classes

Beth Ireland recently (late April) came through the Atlanta area and North Georgia. She has developed a project she calls Turning Around America. The project basically involves traveling the country and teaching woodturning to as many people as she can. In Atlanta, she taught at the Shenck School on April 26, and the pictures below are from that class.



### Lathe Safety

Two lathe related deaths in as many months has raised the issue of safety from a background concern to the forefront for many woodturners. The first casualty was Michele Dufault, a Yale undergraduate majoring in astronomy and physics who was asphyxiated when her hair was caught in a lathe. The second was Joan Kelly, a member of the Mid-South Woodturners, who was struck by a bowl blank that came apart.

As woodturners, we have chosen a tool that is as dangerous as any in the workshop and we sometimes take it for granted.

One of the first things every new woodturner should be taught is that one should not wear long sleeves,

## *Reminders, Items of Interest—Cont*

or loose clothing of any kind and should tie back long hair. That is a pretty easy concept to grasp when one looks at a spinning piece of wood. However familiarity often causes us to forget the extreme forces at work each time we turn on our lathe.

Most of us have heard of the guidelines for safe turning speed. RPM times the diameter of the piece should fall within the range of 6000 to 9000. Using that guideline, a 6" diameter piece should not be turned at more than 1,000 to 1,500 RPM, a 12" diameter piece should be turned at no more than 500 to 750 and a 20" piece, no more than 300 to 450. But why?

Let's look at the forces that are acting on a piece under those three diameters. For those that may care, the formula I used to estimate G force is: force in g's =  $1.12 \times \text{radius\_in\_mm} \times (\text{speed\_in\_rpm} / 1000)^2$ . (This formula provided by a World of Woodturners member.)

When applied to a 6" piece, the guideline results in the surface traveling at approximately 18 to 27 miles an hour. That's not too bad right? Its surface is also exposed to between 76 and 171 G's. Every ounce of wood on the surface of the piece now has between 5 and 10 pounds of force attempting to pull it away from the rest of the piece.

The surface of a 12" piece is traveling at 18 to 27 miles an hour and is subjected to 38 to 87 G's. The 20" piece is traveling at 18 to 27 miles an hour and is subjected to 23 to 52 G's.

So we see a couple of patterns emerging. First of all, the surface of each piece is moving at the same speed when we stay within the guidelines. The bottom line is that if something comes off the piece, it will hit you at a maximum of 27 miles an hour. Will it hurt? Probably. Will it leave a mark? Probably. Will it kill you? Probably not, particularly if you are wearing a face shield.

The second pattern is that the G forces that the pieces are subjected to go down with the diameter. One could use a lot of math to explain why, but it boils down to the rate of change in the object's path and can be illustrated by something familiar to all of us: driving a car in a circle or around a turn. Try to turn your car in a small circle while holding your speed at 27 miles an hour. Then, at the same 27 miles an hour, try it in a medium circle and finally a large circle. As the circle gets larger, you will feel less force trying to move you to the outside of the

circle. The same thing happens to the surface of your piece.

It is good that the G forces decrease with the diameter. Since the volume of wood in a larger piece is greater, there is a greater amount of wood trying to pull the piece apart. There is twice the volume in a 12" piece than a 6" and the 20" piece is over three times the volume of the 6" piece. As size goes up, the G's exerted on the piece goes down in approximately the same ratio. So the total amount of force trying to pull the piece apart should be similar.

Finally, let's take an extreme example. Recently a woodturner was injured (broken jaw, plates, screws and a liquid diet for six weeks) turning an 18" piece at 2050 RPM. That puts him way outside the 6000/9000 range. Let's see how far.

First of all, for an 18" piece, the guideline is 333 to 500 RPM which puts the surface speed and G loading right with the examples above. RPM of 2050 puts the surface speed at about 110 miles an hour and the G load at about 960! Each ounce of surface wood is being subjected to 60 pounds of force trying to pull it away from the rest of the piece. In this case it did. Did it hurt? I would bet on it! Did it leave a mark? Several. Did it kill him? No. He was lucky.

A few ounces of wood at 110 miles an hour would be like getting hit with a croquet ball thrown by a major league pitcher. A heavier piece would be like getting hit by the bat swung by a home run leader.

The guidelines below were developed to help woodturners judge safe speed limits. Can you turn safely outside those limits? Certainly. Should you? Possibly on occasion. Just be aware, that the further outside the guidelines you move, the smaller the safety margin is. A recent demonstrator said, in a nutshell, there are casualties in all hobbies. While that is true and, on the surface seems to make sense, if it was him that was one of those casualties I think his attitude would change.... Provided he survived.

Turn safe.

### *Turning Speed Guidelines*

Most of us have heard the turning speed guidelines: RPM x Diameter In Inches should fall between 6000 and 9000. Below is a chart showing the RPM range that falls in that range. For example, for a 10" object, the RPM should fall in the 600 to 900 range.

## *Reminders, Items of Interest—Cont*

<u>Dia in Inches</u>	<u>RPM Low</u>	<u>RPM High</u>	<u>Dia in Inches</u>	<u>RPM Low</u>	<u>RPM High</u>
1	6000	9000	14	429	643
2	3000	4500	15	400	600
3	2000	3000	16	375	563
4	1500	2250	17	353	529
5	1200	1800	18	333	500
6	1000	1500	19	316	474
7	857	1286	20	300	450
8	750	1125	21	286	429
9	667	1000	22	273	409
10	600	900	23	261	391
11	545	818	24	250	375
12	500	750	25	240	360
13	462	692	26	231	346

### *GAW Member Recognized by the AAW*

Recently, the AAW created a "Quiet Stalwart" award that allows clubs to recognize those members that make significant contributions behind the scenes. For those that missed the May meeting, the board awarded GAW's first Quiet Stalwart award to Jim Hutchinson. Those of us that have been around Jim know, and I am sure he would agree, that he is not always quiet. However, Jim supports the club in many quiet ways.

Jim's picture will appear on the AAW site with the following text:

Jim joined the Georgia Association of Woodturners in early 1994 and has been a member continuously since that date. Over the years, he has held various elected positions within the club including two years as president. In addition to his contributions in those positions, Jim has always been ready to volunteer his time, energy, wisdom and historical knowledge of the club whenever and wherever needed.

Jim seeks out new members to welcome them to the club and his mild manner and genuine friendliness leave a lasting impression. In the words of one of our members, "I don't know of anyone in the club who is better at warm hospitality than Jim."

He is always among the first to volunteer for whatever the club may require and routinely suggests ways that he might be of further service to the club. Jim's "come early, stay late and do whatever needs to be done" attitude has earned him the club's first Quiet Stalwart" award.

### *2011 Georgia National Fair*

The fair will be in early October, just after the Douglasville CAC show, with the dates for entry and deliv-

ering work overlapping the CAC event, so now is the time to be thinking about which pieces you want to exhibit in each show, and to finish more pieces so you can participate in both. More information in the Demonstrations and Events section of the newsletter.

### *Changes to the GAW Bylaws*

At the May 2011 meeting, the board proposed and the membership voted approval of a change to the GAW bylaws. The then current bylaws stated that no more than two club members could attend any particular class on scholarship. The board discussed and then approved a proposal to remove that limit at May board meeting. As is required by the GAW bylaws, the proposal was then brought before the membership at the May club meeting and was approved by the membership in a show of hands. The bylaws have subsequently been changed to remove the limit.

### *Volunteers Needed for the Club*

We are still looking for a new Symposium Committee Chair to replace Harvey Meyer after this years Symposium. Harvey has done a great job for several years now and would like to transition this rewarding role to another member who is willing to step up.

### *Gibsons Win 1st Place in AAW Collaborative Competition*

Michael and Cynthia Gibson's teapot won first place in the recent AAW collaborative competition. If you were at the May meeting you saw this piece in person and would not be surprised that it won. Congratulations Michael and Cynthia! A picture of the teapot will be in the next AAW magazine, but here it is as well.



### *Newsletter input request*

We are always soliciting members input (articles, news items, tips, suggestions, links to relevant web sites, or any other content that you have to share) to make this newsletter better serve GAW members. Send ideas / content to: [editor@gawoodturner.org](mailto:editor@gawoodturner.org)

## Tips & Hints

### Tool Tips—AAW Magazine

Every issue of the Journal of the American Association of Woodturners has a section on tips and hints sent in by members. If you get the publication, don't forget to read this section, or if you would like to receive the magazine for this and many other good informational and instructional articles, then become an AAW member.

### Tips & Hints Requested

If you have a tip that will make turning easier, more fun, safer, or make our pieces turn out better why not share it. Just send it to me—the newsletter editor at [editor@gawoodturner.org](mailto:editor@gawoodturner.org)

## Demonstrations, Events

### Upcoming GAW Demonstrators:

All meetings are the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. See Contact page for location information.

- June 16th 2011—Nick Cook—Everything you wanted to know about the skew, and more.
- July 21st 2011—Mark St. Leger—topics TBD also hands on 21st also at Peachtree Woodworking.
- August 18th 2011—Sharon Doughtie—topics TBD also hands on 18th also at Peachtree Woodworking.
- September 15th 2011—Ernie Newman topics TBD
- October 20th 2011—Wes Jones Beal Buffing System
- November 17th 2011—Mark Sillay topic TBD
- December 15th 2011—GAW Christmas Party!!

### AAW 25th Anniversary Symposium

The AAW's 25th anniversary symposium will be the weekend after next. If you are going have fun and take some pictures and / or notes from the sessions and the finished work for next months Newsletter. Send anything you would like included to: [editor@gawoodturner.org](mailto:editor@gawoodturner.org)

### GAW Club Picnic

The GAW club picnic has been scheduled for August 6th at Danny and Jane McCravy's. Food will be catered. It will be similar to previous years and should be fun.

### Douglasville Cultural Arts Council—GAW Show Sept 2011

The Douglasville Cultural Arts Council will host an exhibit of GAW member's work in September. The

exhibit opens on September 1st at the Cultural Arts Center located at 8652 Campbellton St, Douglasville, GA. All members are encouraged to exhibit their work. See the Presidents Message on p. 1 for more information.

### Important Dates for the CAC Show

August 28th: Hand deliver work to the Douglasville Cultural Arts Center

September 1st: Reception at the Douglasville Cultural Arts Center from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

October 2nd: Pick up work at the Douglasville Cultural Arts Center

### 2011 Georgia National Fair—Oct 6th-16th

The fair is always a big event for the club. We usually have good participation and several award winners in the woodturning category. There are also opportunities to volunteer your time at the display area helping educate fairgoers about what we do. If you would like to exhibit your work, the deadline for postmarking your entry form is August 12th. The entry form will be available in July on the web site under Competitions > Georgia Living Competitions > Home Arts and Fine Arts. \$5 entry fee for each piece submitted, no commission. More information is at the fair web site. [www.georgianationalfair.com](http://www.georgianationalfair.com).

### North Carolina Woodturning Symposium

November 4-6, Greensboro Coliseum Special Events Center. Featured demonstrators: Marilyn Campbell, Emmet Kane, Mike Mahoney, Pascal Oudet, Richard Raffan and Les Thorne.

### Tennessee Woodturning Symposium

Tennessee Association of Turners, 24th annual Symposium—January 27-28, 2012, Radisson Hotel at Opryland in Nashville. Featured demonstrators: Al Stirt, Dale Larson, Mark Gardner and Jennifer Shirley.

## Instant Gallery Photos, May Meeting

### May Instant Gallery

The quality of work our club members produce is always high, and consistently improving. This month is no exception. Browse the pieces below and I think you will agree. If you have a question about any of the pieces, contact the owner at the next meeting.



White Oak, African Cherry and Maple segmented vessel—  
Suzie Tendall

Anigre, Maple, and Walnut segmented vessel with Greek Key design—  
Suzie Tendall



Pear teapot with fine burned surface treatment—  
Micahel and Cynthia Gibson

Large spalted Box Elder bowl, finished with Liberon Finishing Oil and Renaissance Wax—  
Doug McCulloch



Cherry Burl tea pot, turned and carved—  
Niall Matheson

Wormy Maple vessel, finished with Tung Oil—  
J.D. Crisp



Sourwood Crotch bowl, carved on the bottom—  
George Daughtry

Large Pecan crotch bowl—  
John Madajewski



Small Aspen Lidded Box with Pecan top—  
George Daughtry

### Instant Gallery Photos, May Meeting—Cont.



Large Black Walnut crotch platter with chatoyance—Turk Alliston



Small Cherry Burl bowl with partial natural edge—Turk Alliston



Osage Orange bowl with multiple inlays of walnut, maple and walnut on the outside—Wes Jones



Maple platter carved with maple leaves—Leigh Brooks



Small Maple Burl vessel with voids—Roger Hendrickson



Small conical Maple Burl vessel—Roger Hendrickson



Maple Burl vessel with voids—Roger Hendrickson



Small Maple Burl bowl with partial natural edge—Roger Hendrickson



Large winged Walnut rectangular bowl—Jack Morse

Catalpa square off center bowl—Jack Morse

### Demonstration—Jimmy Clews

Jimmy was very informative and entertaining as usual. This time he demonstrated making a baseball cap.



## DVD/Video Tape Library

The Georgia Association of Woodturners (GAW) has instructional videos available for rental before each GAW meeting. A full list of the videos is shown on our website. Only members may rent tapes and DVDs. Rentals are \$2.00 per month. Rentals are lim-

*Take advantage of this valuable and money saving resource.*

ited to 2 tapes or DVDs per month, and the items must be returned the following month. Late fees of \$2.00 per month will be assessed for each item not returned on time. New titles are being added every month!

## 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](http://www.folkschool.org)

Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts [www.arrowmont.org](http://www.arrowmont.org)

Highland Woodworking [www.highlandwoodworking.com](http://www.highlandwoodworking.com)

Appalachian Center for Crafts [www.tntech.edu/craftcenter](http://www.tntech.edu/craftcenter)

Dogwood Institute School of Fine Woodworking [www.dogwoodwoodworking.com](http://www.dogwoodwoodworking.com)

Woodcraft [www.woodcraft.com](http://www.woodcraft.com)

## Woodturning Instructors

The following GAW club members give private woodturning instruction in their own shops. Contact them for more information.

Frank Bowers  
[fcbowrs@aol.com](mailto:fcbowrs@aol.com)  
404-292-1107

Phil Colson  
[pcolson@mindspring.com](mailto:pcolson@mindspring.com)  
404 518-4925  
404 292-1107

Nick Cook  
[nickcook@earthlink.net](mailto:nickcook@earthlink.net)  
[www.nickcookwoodturner.com](http://www.nickcookwoodturner.com)  
770 421-1212

Michael Gibson  
[www.michaelgibsonwoodturner.com](http://www.michaelgibsonwoodturner.com)  
404 803-1438

*Take your skills to the next level. Have more fun.*

Wes Jones  
[wwjones@comcast.net](mailto:wwjones@comcast.net)  
770 972-6803

Jack Morse  
[johnmorse@bellsouth.net](mailto:johnmorse@bellsouth.net)  
770 316-7941

Peggy Schmid  
[schmidgodfrey@bellsouth.net](mailto:schmidgodfrey@bellsouth.net)  
678 947-4562

Mark Sillay  
[barmark@comcast.net](mailto:barmark@comcast.net)  
404 556-1736

Terry Smith  
[woodtsmith@yahoo.com](mailto:woodtsmith@yahoo.com)  
478 972-3111

[www.gawoodturner.org](http://www.gawoodturner.org)

Highland Woodworking  
1045 North Highland Avenue NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30306  
Phone: (404) 872-4466  
E-mail:



*The Georgia Association of Woodturners (GAW) is a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW), dedicated to providing education, information and organization to those interested in woodturning.*

*The GAW services those in the metro-Atlanta area. We meet on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 P.M. at Highland Woodworking ([www.highlandwoodworking.com](http://www.highlandwoodworking.com)) in Virginia Highlands. Meetings are open to all. Enter through the loading dock at the rear of the building and go up-stairs. Highland Woodworking closes at 6:00 P.M. on Thursdays, so come early and shop.*

Name, Position	Phone	Email address
Steve Pritchard, President	770-947-3457	<a href="mailto:president@gawoodturner.org">president@gawoodturner.org</a>
Frank Bowers, Vice President	404-292-1107	<a href="mailto:vp@gawoodturner.org">vp@gawoodturner.org</a>
Denis Delehanty, Treasurer	404-550-2659	<a href="mailto:treasurer@gawoodturner.org">treasurer@gawoodturner.org</a>
Jane Bridges, Secretary	770-491-1618	<a href="mailto:secretary@gawoodturner.org">secretary@gawoodturner.org</a>
Jim Hardy, Member at Large	770-992-4195	<a href="mailto:board1@gawoodturner.org">board1@gawoodturner.org</a>
Phil Hargrove, Member at Large	478-862-5327	<a href="mailto:board2@gawoodturner.org">board2@gawoodturner.org</a>
Danny McCravy, Past President	770-949-6372	<a href="mailto:board3@gawoodturner.org">board3@gawoodturner.org</a>
Harvey Meyer, Symposium Chair	770-671-1080	<a href="mailto:symposium@gawoodturner.org">symposium@gawoodturner.org</a>
Ron Britton, Program Chairman	770-253-0882	<a href="mailto:program_committee@gawoodturner.org">program_committee@gawoodturner.org</a>
Harvey Meyer, Publicity Chairman	770-671-1080	<a href="mailto:publicity@gawoodturner.org">publicity@gawoodturner.org</a>
Harry Saunders, Scholarship Chairman	404-352-2946	<a href="mailto:scholarships@gawoodturner.org">scholarships@gawoodturner.org</a>
Steve Sandler, Librarian	770 908-2676	<a href="mailto:sandersm@comcast.net">sandersm@comcast.net</a>
Doug McCulloch, Newsletter Editor	770-499-1805	<a href="mailto:editor@gawoodturner.org">editor@gawoodturner.org</a>
Nick Cook, Advisor	770-421-1212	<a href="mailto:advisor@gawoodturner.org">advisor@gawoodturner.org</a>
Steve Pritchard, Webmaster	770-947-3457	<a href="mailto:webmaster@gawoodturner.org">webmaster@gawoodturner.org</a>

## Woodturning Links

### Craft Supply

[www.woodturnerscatalog.com](http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com)

800-551-8876

Woodturning Supplies

### Packard

[www.packardwoodworks.com](http://www.packardwoodworks.com)

800-683-8876

Woodturning Supplies

### American Association of Woodturners

[www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org)

Woodturning Association

### Klingspor

[www.woodworkingshop.com](http://www.woodworkingshop.com)

800-228-0000

Abrasives and woodturning supplies

### Highland Woodworking

[www.highlandhardware.com](http://www.highlandhardware.com)

800-241-6748

Woodworking tools, supplies

### The Cutting Edge

[www.cuttingedgetools.com](http://www.cuttingedgetools.com)

800-790-7980

Turning and carving tools, supplies

### Penn State

[www.pennstateind.com](http://www.pennstateind.com)

800-377-7297

Woodturning tools, supplies

### Hut Products

[www.hutproducts.com](http://www.hutproducts.com)

800-547-5461

Woodturning tools, supplies

### Atlanta Wood Products

[www.hardwoodweb.com](http://www.hardwoodweb.com)

800-964-7804

Specialty Hardwoods

### Woodcraft

[www.woodcraft.com](http://www.woodcraft.com)

800-225-1153

Woodworking and Hardware

### Rockler

[www.rockler.com](http://www.rockler.com)

800-279-4441

Woodworking and Hardware

### Wood magazine Forum

[www.woodmagazine.com](http://www.woodmagazine.com)

Q & A on Woodturning

## Closing

This newsletter is published monthly by the Georgia Association of Woodturners, (GAW). All opinions expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, Officers, or the GAW.

Woodturning Schools and Instructors listed in this Newsletter are not recommended or endorsed by the GAW, but are made available to the GAW members and others as a convenience only.

Your GAW questions, comments and suggestions are always welcome. You may contact any officer through the contact information in this newsletter, or our website's contact webpage:

[www.gawoodturner.org/contact.shtml](http://www.gawoodturner.org/contact.shtml)