



# Piedmont Triad Woodturners Association



www.woodturner.org

Newsletter  
April 2010

## Message from the President:

Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone had a good month and got to do lots of turning. I didn't get to do as much as I wanted, being tax season, but that will be over with soon. How many people practiced using their skewers for other than a paint can opener this past month?



I thought Jerry Measimer's demo on the skewer was excellent. He had a lot of good tips that we can all use and take back to our shops. There is always more that we can learn about getting the best results from our turning tools. I liked the skewers that he made. If you missed his demo, you missed a good one.

Next meeting, Jim Duxbury has scheduled John Benton to come in and do a demonstration on Turning Shortcuts and a 30 minute bowl. Jim has and continues to get really great demonstrators, introducing us to different areas of woodturning. We can learn something from every demonstration that we see as long as we are open minded and pay attention. I'm sure that John will have some things to show us that will help us in our woodturning experience. Woodturning is supposed to be an enjoyable experience for us all so let's learn some shortcuts to enhance the experience and make it more fun. Also, it will be interesting to me to see someone turn a bowl in 30 minutes. I have never done that!

We really appreciate having Wayne Peterson and Pat Lloyd helping with the photography. We had a little confusion with the extra sign-up sheets, but Wayne and Pat worked with Jim Terry and got that straightened out. Jim Terry has been gracious enough to step up to the plate and design new sign-up sheets to use in the future to help eliminate any confusion. I think I am speaking for everyone when I say that we appreciate Wayne, Pat and Jim's

willingness to help make the photography and gallery work together so smoothly.

We used the new speakers and new stands that Jim Terry got for us last month. Due to the larger room and being able to spread out the speakers further, I think they made a world of difference in the audio quality. Coupled with Bob Muir managing the video camera, we are producing quality DVDs of the demos. If you missed a meeting or wanted to view a demo in more detail, be sure to see Rita and check out the DVD of the demonstration. Jim, Bob and Rita are all doing a great job of making DVDs of the demonstrations available to you. Please take advantage of the library and be sure to thank them for all their hard work.

The gallery was exceptional last month. John and Jim did a great job of presenting both the Instant Gallery and the Turning Challenge. Jerry, our demonstrator, commented to me that he was really impressed by the participation in our gallery and turning challenge and the quality of the work. He commended our groups participation. The gallery and turning challenge are for everyone. If you are a new turner, don't be intimidated by the other items in the gallery or turning challenge. Remember, we all started at the same place and we are all working together to improve our skills and learn new techniques. Everyone should participate in the gallery and turning challenge. That is your time to show your stuff.

One key area we need to focus on this coming year is increasing volunteer participation for all the activities required to operate our club. We are woefully short of backups for almost all activities. If you are willing to contribute some of your talents to the club, contact any Officer or Board Member. We need people to do a specific tasks as well as being a backup person for someone else. That way, if someone can't make a meeting, we will have another person to help them with their activity. We need help with meeting setup and teardown as well as backup help in several other areas.

John Morris got a great response to a Segmented Turning Breakout Session. We are in the process of determining a good time and location to hold that breakout session. We will let you know more as the plan develops. (See page 4) I know he will do a great job of the Breakout Session and everyone that attends will benefit.

We also had good response on the Mini-hat Breakout session with Jerry Measimer, our demonstrator from last month. We will let you know when we can schedule that as soon as we can determine a date. I would tentatively think it would be August or September. There will probably be a small charge for that since he is not a club member and will be coming from out of town.

Breakout sessions will be held, usually on a Saturday, at someone's shop, at the Leonard Rec. Center or Woodcraft, depending on space availability. The breakout sessions consists of a demo followed by instruction on a particular topic. Sessions will be limited based on the topic, and the number of people that the Breakout Session leader feels he/she can effectively help. There may be a small fee to cover supplies and expenses of the session. It should be a lot of fun and a good experience for all who chose to attend. If you have suggestions for breakout session topics please contact Jim Duxbury.

Our Turning Challenge for May will be to turn a trivet. One of the websites that shows how to turn a trivet is

[www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Projects/trivet.html](http://www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Projects/trivet.html). I'm sure there are many other examples of trivets that you can turn. I remember one in an old Wood Magazine, but unfortunately I don't remember which issue it was. Let's see if we can come up with some really original trivets and see who has the most unusual and interesting design. You may even want to use some of Earl's dowels if you have any left. There are no size limits or other restrictions on this one, so let's all have a good time with this. You can incorporate any features you want including carving, burning, coloring, inlays or anything else that you might want to do. Let's see who can make the most creative trivet.

Our Turning Challenge for April will be to turn a spoon or spatula. We can incorporate what we learned in Lan Brady's turning a ladle demo and Jerry Measimer's demo on using a skew. I found a website that you can use for guidance, [www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Projects/spoons.html](http://www.woodturningonline.com/Turning/Projects/spoons.html). You can use the instructions here as a guide, but let's make these our own designs. If you attended the last N.C. Symposium and bought the demonstrators book, there is a copy of Lan's handout in it. You can incorporate any features you

want including carving, burning, coloring, turquoise in the handles or anything else that you might want to do. Let's see who can make the most creative spoon or spatula.

Please bring your **two** best tunings for display in the Instant Gallery and one item for each of the Monthly Turning Challenges. Limiting your entries to **two** items for the Instant Gallery and one item for each of the Turning Challenges gives us more time to admire them. We have a really fantastic Instant Gallery so let's all keep up the good work.

Be sure to bring something for the monthly Raffle. It can be wood, an old tool you don't use anymore, old Woodturning and Woodworking magazines or whatever you think other members would enjoy winning. Our Raffle is one of the ways that we raise money to support the club and is something in which everyone can participate. Doc does a fantastic job of running the raffle. I have been to numerous other club meeting and haven't seen anyone that does a better job.

We have added some new DVDs to the library and plan to add more throughout the year as funds permit. If you know of any that you think would benefit the club, please let Rita know. Any items checked out need to be returned the following month so other people can use them. If you have any books, VHS tapes or DVDs that you aren't using any more, please consider donating them to the library so that others may enjoy them.

If, for some reason, you are a member and not attending the meetings, you are missing a lot. We hope you will come back and enjoy the demos and the fellowship. We have a lot of fun at the meeting and we don't want you to miss out.

We are always looking for ways to improve our club. We have made several changes in the past year that I hope have been beneficial to the club and its members. We are looking forward to 2010 being our best year ever. Please let any Board Member know what you think we can or should do that we aren't doing to improve the club for all members. If you would, please contact a Board member at the meeting and follow up with an email, letter or phone call after the meeting. This club belongs to all of us and working together we can all make it better and more fun for everyone.

See you at the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting,  
Bob

## Minutes of the February Meeting:

- President Bob Moffett opened our meeting
- Welcome to 3 visitor and 2 new members was extended
- Working on a Segmented breakout session for May
- Welcome back to Jim Yarbrough
- Jim announced that Bird-Fest is April 30-May 1 this year
- Rita updated us on new Library DVD's, Please return your overdue videos
- Jim Terry is still missing a few mug shots for our directory
- Bob Muir briefly surveyed for interest in Logo Shirts, smocks and hats
- Reminder about our summer turning classes for pre-teens. Your help will be appreciated.
- Turning challenge for next month is spoons, scoops or other assorted treen-ware
- Our Gallery was presented by John M and Jim Y
- Treasurers report was given by Bob H
- Jim D updated on future demos
- Doc G. conducted our very organized Raffle

Jim Duxbury introduced our guest turner for the evening. We were honored to have Jerry Measimer from Richfield, NC. Jerry discovered his turning addition just over 2 years ago. He joined the Southern Piedmont Turning club that meets in Concord. He is presently serving as President. By profession, Jerry runs his own business of Drywall and Tile installation. He jokingly confesses that during the recession, his business may be called "Anything for A Buck, LLC".

Tonight Jerry was willing to share, how to use and maintain the Skew. What? You thought that tool was for opening paint cans only? Lots of people were pleasantly surprised to learn that it is actually a turning tool. A very versatile turning tool at that!

We began with, how you sharpen this tool. Here again it is very versatile. It can be sharpened on the grinder or sharpened on a flat stone or sharpened with sand paper. The preference seems to be using a flat surface over the grinder. This will eliminate the concave appearance to the



bevel. Just when you think it is safe to go back to turning, you realize that you are just half way through with the sharpening process. After the initial grind, this tool requires honing. There are several ways to accomplish this as well. Jerry demonstrates the use of a diamond card to hone his Skew. He also mentions that Leather strops or finer grits of sandpaper will accomplish your goal.

What is the goal? To get this tool scary sharp! Not only will it shave the hair from your arm, it can cut the hairs right down the middle. (Note: that last part was an editorial comment. Don't believe everything you read) But his Skew was very sharp.

Most people, who venture into using their Skew, present it to the wood as they would a scraper. Although it makes an excellent negative rake scraper, its abilities goes way beyond.

For practice pieces, Jerry recommends buying 2x4's and cutting them in half. You now have plenty of 1-1/2 x 1-1/2" turning blocks. In our case, if you have been to many meetings, you have gone home with a handful of maple turning blocks.

After finding the center, Jerry places the spindle square between centers. The first step is to round the blank. Jerry offers 2 methods. The first is to lay the tool flat on the tool rest with the point high on the piece of wood. With a pivot motion, you lower the tool into the wood. You are only using the first half of the skew. The process is repeated down the entire length of the blank. This action creates a peeling cut that will quickly feel very natural to you.

Second method for rounding is to present the tool, anchored on the tool rest, at a 45 degree angle and shift your entire body with the tool held against your turning muscle.

This creates a planning type cut across the length of the blank. Note, don't measure 45 degrees, you will find a sweet spot that works best for you. Jerry has now created a cylinder that is smooth from one end to the other.



He mentions that all the main cuts of the Skew are to create a cove, a bead or incised lines. That is actually 2 cuts since an incised line is a very small cove.

We start with the cove. Using the point, you mark the wood. Move the perpendicular Skew over slightly and touch the wood again. It almost carries itself back into the line you made. Now repeat from

the other side of the line. Wow, it happens again. The Skew drifts back to the line again. How did it know which way to go? I guess it is just the magic of using a skew. You now have a V shaped cove you can repeat the process until the cove is as deep as you would like.

Now what if you prefer a smooth sweeping cove instead of the V shaped cove. Well it is the same cut, but you will just need to add a little body English and slightly turn the Skew as you are making the cove.

Now, lets move on to the bead. You already have all the moves you need to accomplish the bead. You make 2 incised lines slightly wider apart than you want your bead to be. Jerry shared a great little trick here, using a pencil, mark the high point of the bead so you do not cut it away. Now, we return to the incised lines. Make the same cuts, just like you were making 2 coves. Now reverse your Skew, starting near your pencil mark. You make the first planning cut with a little body English again and ending up at the bottom of the cove. Now repeat in the other direction. You have created a bead.

Trusting that we were learning the proper steps Jerry decided to make some useful projects. Using only the Skew and a few cuts with a parting tool to incise some wider lines, he makes a honey dipper. The design appears slowly but looks very balanced. It has an egg shaped bulb, and the handle begins by showing the finger guard. The increasing slope to the bulb of the dipper, and finally a round knob on the end. With some parting cuts, the dipper separates from the lathe.

Having several minutes left, Jerry shows us another of the crowd pleasers. He makes a Spinning top with a tiny handle that allow you to gain max speed when spinning. With the touch of a chatter tool, the top is decorated as well. I wonder if these methods would work on the Earl Top? Probably!

His final piece was a surprise. It started to take shape by using the peeling cut. Then the V shaped cove. And finally a longer bead to a stop cove and a

finial ball on the end. Before you know it, he has made a Snowman Christmas ornament.

Jerry finished the evening with a round of excellent questions. He even helped a few people after the meeting was over.

Respectfully submitted, Lan Brady

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## Segmented Breakout Session:

John Morris will present “Fundamentals of Closed Segmented Turning” on Saturday, May 15 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Leonard Center. The center opens a 9 and closes at 1 so we must be cleaned up by 1 pm. John plans on having hand-out material at our April 13<sup>th</sup> and May 11<sup>th</sup> meetings. This type of gathering allows for a more “up-close and personal” presentation than our normal monthly club demonstrations.

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## Habitat for Humanity:

Jim Yarbrough will have artist information at our next meeting. He will deliver contribution to Habitat in time for judging.

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## Welcome New Members:

Tom Ogburn  
Jim & Martha Stone  
Eddie Leggitt  
Gerald Heins

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## In PTWA Store:

The following items are available. Bring your money and see Bob Holtje.

- Thin, medium and thick CA plus accelerator.
- Crystal clear epoxy for inseting stones or powder
- Turquoise in 3 grades.
- Small assortment of color wood in different size dowels, 2.5x2.5 x11" blocks and other sizes. Nice assortment all at saving of 30%. 2 bottles of sealer.
- Ruth Niles bottle toppers.

## Photos of the March Instant Gallery

*When you bring items for the gallery, please log it in so we can properly assign credit.*

Photos by Pat Lloyd. All photos are the property of PTWA and the individual woodturner. You can see the color versions by going to the On-Line Newsletter and the Instant Gallery on our website <http://www.ptwoodturners.org>



Dennis Ross – Cherry Hollow Form w/ Handles



Jim Terry – Bradford Pear Vase



Jim Terry – Bradford Pear Vase



Dennis Ross – Cherry Vase w/ Handles



Clyde Mosley - Ambrosia Maple Fruit Bowl



George Sudermann – Bowl w/ Blue Opal Fluoride Inlay



George Sudermann – Walnut Bowl w/ Turquoise Inlay



George Sudermann – Cedar Bowl w/ Turquoise Inlay



Julien McCarthy – Osage Orange Plate w/ Butternut Inlays



Jim Tuttle – White Pine Hollow Form



Earl Kennedy – Rubber Tree Fluted Box



Jim Yarbrough – Myrtlewood Bowl



Bert Rau – Layered Bloodwood/Sycamore Bowl



Bert Rau – Layered Cherry/Spalted Pecan Bowl



Buzz Dunning – “Shotgun Shell” Bottle Stoppers



Scot Conklin – Buckeye Burl Apollo Infinity Pen



Scott Conklin – Irish Bog Oak (5000 yr old) Pen & Pencil



Pat Lloyd – Cherry Crotch Bowl



Bob Moffett – Cherry Bowl



Buzz Dunning – Ambrosia Maple Shallow Bowl



Jason Park – Buckeye Hollow Form



Earl Kennedy – Green Dyed Bowl



Nim Batchelor – Hard Maple Spatula



Nim Batchelor – Hard Maple Wok Spatula



Bob Moffett – Walnut Bowl



Pat Lloyd – Crotch Ogee Bowl



John Morris – Cherry & Corian Pens



Bruce Schneeman – Oak Platter



Bruce Schneeman – Maple Platter



Jim Barbour – Big Leaf Maple Burl Natural Edge Platter



Jim Yarbrough – Ambrosia Maple Bowl



Earl Kennedy – Construction Lumber Bowl



Linda Michael – Pyrography on Sycamore Bowl



Jim Duxbury – Ash Threader



Bob Moffett – Maple Box w/ Fineal



Carter Deaton – Threaded Box



Cam Lane – Sassafras “Lazarus” Vase



Michael Jones – Cherry/Walnut Segmented Vase



Carter Deaton – Maple Burl Natural Edge Vase



Red Saunders – Hollow Form w/ Finial



Red Saunders – Hollow Form w/ Finial



Julien McCarthy – Maple Urn w/ Turquoise Inlay



Floyd Lucas – Yellow Segmented Hollow Form



Floyd Lucas – Blue Segmented Hollow Form



Bill Earles – Walnut/Redheart Peppermills



Dave MacInnes – Walnut, Birch, Purpleheart, Oak, Tigerwood Candle Stick



Jim Tuttle – Walnut/Maple Stool



Michael Jones – Walnut/Maple Sculpture

**Challenge Gallery – Make something from a ¾ x 4 inch dowel pin**



Bob Moffett - Hollowform



Bob Moffett - Hollowform



Floyd Lucas – Rolling Pin



John Moehlmann – “Days of Wine & No Roses



Earl Kennedy – Hollowform & Fineal



Earl Kennedy – Race Car



Barry Lewis - Crayons

**MENTORS**

Jim Barbour, Elon (336) 584-4428  
 Gene Briggs, Kernersville (336) 869-4584  
 Jim Duxbury, Graham (336) 227-7168  
 Jack Johnson, Stokesdale (336) 643-6888

Bob Moffett, Burlington (336) 229-6141  
 John Morris, Siler City (919) 742-5148  
 Bob Muir, Greensboro (336) 638-6012  
 Earl Kennedy, Trinity (336) 472-6243

Bruce Schneeman, Summerfield (336) 644-9973  
 George Sudermann, Winston-Salem (336) 923-2007  
 Jim Terry, Winston-Salem (336) 768-0033

**CHAPTER OFFICERS**

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**EX OFFICIO**

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 Newsletter/Website – Jim Terry; 111 Anita Dr.; Winston-Salem, NC 27104; (336) 768-0033; [jimterry@bellsouth.net](mailto:jimterry@bellsouth.net)  
 Librarian – Rita Duxbury; 3141 Shelly Graham Drive; Graham, NC 27253; (336) 227-7168; [cyberdux@bellsouth.net](mailto:cyberdux@bellsouth.net)

MEETING LOCATION: Leonard Recreation Center (336) 297-4889).  
6324 Ballinger Road, Greensboro, NC 27410

FROM WEST OF GREENSBORO

Take I-40 East to Exit 212 (Bus-40 Greensboro To Bryan Blvd). Exit is from the right lane.  
At the top of the Exit 212 ramp take Exit 24 (To Bryan Blvd. PTI Airport). You will now be headed north on the new highway.  
Exit the new highway onto W. Friendly Ave. and go left (west) on W. Friendly.  
Go about ¼ mile west on W. Friendly to Chimney Rock Rd. and turn right (north at traffic light) on Chimney Rock Rd.  
As Chimney Rock Rd. parallels the new highway, you will come to the intersection of Ballinger Rd.  
Turn right on Ballinger and go under the new highway. Shortly beyond the overpass Leonard Recreation Center will be on your left.

FROM EAST OF GREENSBORO

Take Bus-40 through Greensboro  
Take Exit 212 (To Bryan Blvd. PTI Airport). You will now be headed north on the new highway.  
Exit the new highway onto W. Friendly Ave. and go left (west) on W. Friendly.  
Go about ¼ mile west on W. Friendly to Chimney Rock Rd. and turn right (north at traffic light) on Chimney Rock Rd.  
As Chimney Rock Rd. parallels the new highway, you will come the intersection of Ballinger Rd.  
Turn right on Ballinger and go under the new highway. Shortly beyond the overpass Leonard Recreation Center will be on your left.

FROM THE NORTH SIDE OF GREENSBORO

Ballinger turns west from New Garden / Guilford College Rd. just north of Guilford College. The following link to Mapquest will detail this area.  
Directions from Bus-40 to Guilford College Rd have been removed since the above directions are much faster from Bus-40.

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?address=6324+Ballinger&zipcode=27410>

Dues Renewal or Application for Membership Piedmont Triad Woodturners Association

Date \_\_\_\_\_  NEW APPLICATION  RENEWAL

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (Work)

City \_\_\_\_\_ E Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ AAW membership No. \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Fee: \$30.00 per year. Combined dues for member and spouse : \$45.00 per year. Dues paid prior to Jan 1<sup>st</sup> each year.  
We prorate dues if you are joining at other times of the year.

For those who desire to receive the newsletter via US Mail add \$6.00.

Please make check payable to Piedmont Triad Woodturners Association.

Mail to: Bob Holtje 943 Ridge Gate Dr. Lewisville, NC 27023