



# Piedmont Triad Woodturners Association



www.woodturner.org

## Newsletter

### November 2008

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#### Next Meeting:

November 4<sup>th</sup> – Matt Birchfield

#### Future Demonstrators:

December 2<sup>nd</sup> – Christmas Party at the  
Moose Café in Farmer Market

#### Message from the President:

Hello Everyone, I hope you are all doing well.

We had election of officers at the October meeting. The following officers were selected:

Bob Moffett – President  
John Morris Jr. – Vice-President  
Lisa Mason – Secretary  
Bob Holtje – Treasurer

Thank you all for your vote of confidence allowing me to serve as your club President for another year. I have enjoyed serving the past year and look forward to the upcoming year. I don't promise a new lathe in every workshop, be it a garage, basement or freestanding shop, but I will do the best I can to serve the club and help it grow and become better for all members.

I hope that you didn't miss our outstanding demonstration by Allan Batty last month. If you did, you missed an informative and humorous demonstration that was enjoyed by all who attended. We were really lucky that Jim Duxbury was able to have Allan demonstrate for us. Allan has been turning



since he apprenticed at age 15 and is considered a Master Class Turner. He is the father of Stuart Batty and has produced several DVDs, one on using the Skew Chisel, everyone's favorite tool, which is in our library. Allan showed us how to do small boxes and thread chasing, off center turning as well as teaching us a lot about tool control. I really liked the tool system that he used with the interchangeable handle. I found out later that he had that made especially for him to use when doing demonstrations and they are not available for sale. Oh well!

We had some really nice pieces in the Instant Gallery last month. I have been to several other club meetings and I really believe that our gallery is among the best. I think everyone should be proud of, and inspired by our gallery. The gallery is enhanced by everyone's participation, whether you are a new turner or an experienced turner. Participating in it is a learning experience for all of us. Remember, we all started off at the same place and we are all trying to get better. As much as I would like for us to spend more time with the gallery, due to the limited time that we have for the meeting, it has been suggested by several members that we limit the number of turning that we each put in the gallery to two pieces. This would allow us more time for the demonstrators. Let's try this for the November meeting and see how it works out.

Remember, this month's Turning Challenge is to turn something *other than a pen* from the pen blanks that I handed out last meeting. Also, anyone who took a roughed-out bowl blank and finished it, please bring it in and let's see what you did with it. If you haven't finished it, that's

alright too. Just bring it in to the January meeting or whenever you complete it. If you enjoyed this project, let us know and we can do it again another time. If you have some suggestions for a Turning Challenge, let me or a Board Member know and it will be considered and maybe put on the list for next year.

In November our demonstrator will be Matt Birchfield, member of the Roanoke, Virginia club. He will be demonstrating how to turn a translucent lampshade. That should be really interesting. I have seen videos of someone turning a lampshade but, have never seen the process up close. Jim has once again scheduled a unique demonstration for us.

We had a successful raffle last meeting with a lot of donations of very nice items. If you have some interesting pieces of wood that you would like to contribute to the raffle, please bring them. Also, if you have some old woodworking or woodturning magazines that are cluttering up your house or you think other people would enjoy, they would be good items to bring in for the raffle. We are planning on having our annual used tool sale in February so you might want to save any old tools that you don't use anymore to put in the sale.

The Board is considering a change of the meeting night to the second Tuesday of the month. We would like to discuss this at the November meeting and vote on whether to make the change or stay with the first Tuesday of the month. The time would be the same, just a different date. A couple of reasons for the change would be that we could potentially coordinate demonstrators and workshops with the Raleigh and Hickory clubs and be able to afford some more national turners. Another reason would be that the meeting dates would not conflict with either voting dates or July 4<sup>th</sup>. Please think about this proposal and let us know how it would affect you as a club member.

The club bylaws say that amendments must be approved by a simple majority of the qualified voting members of the Chapter. This has been interpreted as a simple majority of the members present at a regular meeting.

If the members decide to make this change, it would be effective with the January 2009 meeting. If the majority of the club members do not want to make the change, we will continue meeting on the first Tuesday of the month.

We are outgrowing our current room and are considering a move to the long room across the hall. It appears to be a slightly larger room and has a tile floor which would facilitate clean-up after the meeting.

Jim Terry is doing an excellent job with the newsletter. I look at quite a few other clubs newsletters trying to get ideas for our club and feel our newsletter is comparable with any newsletter out there. Thanks for all of your hard work, Jim.

An inventory of our library materials has been taken and many new items have been added to the collection. In order for the library to grow, we need all members to contribute the requested rental fee for items and also to return items on time or at your earliest convenience. With the monies from rentals, we will continue to purchase new items to enhance our collection, particularly professional DVDs.

We are always looking for ways to improve our club. We are trying a lot of new things to make our club better. We know that some of them will work better than others. We are open to and looking for your input and new ideas. Please let any Board Member know what you think we can or should do that we aren't doing that will improve the club for all members. If you have some suggestions or request, or if you want to contribute some of your talents, contact any Officer or Board Member and your ideas will be considered. This club belongs to all of us and working together we can all make it better and more fun.

On a personal note, it was really great to see John and Judy Morris at the last meeting. We have all missed him and look forward to them being back with us on a regular basis. We also look forward to the day when John is able to present the Instant Gallery again. He does an outstanding job with the gallery and his influence has been missed.

See you at the November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting,  
Bob

## Minutes of October 7th Meeting

- We had 3 new visitors and 56 members present.
- John Morris surprised us and joined us after many weeks in the hospital. It was great to see John.
- MENTORS--If you would like to be a mentor contact Jim Terry and he will add you to the list on our website.
- MEMBERS--We have many great turners in our midst that are willing to share their time and expertise to help you with any questions and or projects you want to do. Look on the website and click on mentors and give them a call.
- LOGO shirts--We have some PTWA LOGO t-shirts and shirts available for purchase. If you would like to see other items we can discuss this at the next meeting.
- UPCOMING DEMONSTRATIONS:
  - November--Matt Burchfield--Lamp Shades
  - December--Annual Christmas Party
  - January-- Bill McInnis
- If you have a special area of expertise and would like to demonstrate to the club one month contact Jim Duxbury. He is working on the schedule for next year and needs demonstrators. We have many talented wood turners among our group.
- Bob Moffett conducted the instant gallery.
- Board Members were elected into office. All positions remained the same with the exception of the Treasurer where Bob Holtje took over for Gene Briggs and Secretary where Lisa Mason took over for Lan Brady. We thank Gene for serving as the Treasurer and Lan as Secretary for many years. -- All yeas and No nays.
- Turning challenge for November. Bob Moffett provided pen blanks for the challenge. Turn anything but a pen with these blanks. Should be interesting.
- Treasures Report: \$2038

- REMINDER DUES ARE DUE. Send dues to Bob Holtje –Treasurer, 943 Ridge Gate Dr. Lewisville, NC 27023
- Allan Batty was introduced to the group.



What a night we had enjoying Allan's wit and humor as he gave us a look at his life as a master wood turner. Over 40 years as a professional turner, Allan had many people apprentice under him,

including his own Son, Stuart.

Allan is truly a wonder to watch at the lathe and listen so his philosophy about wood turners of today and the older master's.

Allan started the demonstration with the angles that gouges are ground and the effects



of the chosen angles. Each of us have our own preference of what angle works for us with out looking at the physics of turning. Angles from 35-80 degrees are popular among wood turners, however, Allan explained that the optimal angle to use to grind the gouge is 80 degrees. This allows for the smooth transition inside the piece you are turning. And can result in a deeper cut, without catches. The purpose of the gouge being round is so that it is always supported by the rest as you move through the cut.

After teaching us the importance of the gouge and it's grind, Allan continued to explain the difference between the new turning equipment versus the old. Tool rests have changed over the years and have moved toward the flat edge that the tool rests on from the traditional round tool rest. The importance of having a rounded tool rest, according to Allan, is that it allows for the tool

to glide through the cut allowing for smoother cuts while cutting coves and beads in to the piece. He also stressed the importance that a tool rest should not be any longer than 6 inches unless supported by more posts along its length to allow optimum cutting performance. (cutting beyond the supporting post leads to vibration of the tool which in turn causes tool marks along the piece.)

Allan stressed how important it was to use the body to control the tool as opposed to moving the tool alone. Some examples he gave were to lay your pointing finger along the tool and to point in the direction you want the cut to be. (Roll your wrist through the cut.) Another area is with making a practice run through the cut to ensure you can make the cut in one sweeping movement with your body before you actually make the cut. If you have to move your feet then the cut will not be clean.

Thread chasing a small mushroom box was Allan's next demonstration. This was an amazing demo to watch and lots of those "tricks of the trade", were shared by Allan. The importance of cutting a clean thread lies in the type of equipment and how it is properly used. Probably cutting thousands of threads allowed Allan to make this look like a simple process, with the right tools time and patience it would be a worth while technique to learn.

Unfortunately our time ran out on such a great night with Allan, however Allan is scheduled to appear at the NC symposium in October 2009, so we shall see him again.

Respectfully,  
Lisa Mason



### Upcoming Events:

The Arizona Woodturner's Association will hold its third Desert Woodturning Roundup on February 6, 7 & 8, 2009 at the Mesa Convention Center, Mesa, AZ.

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

**Carolina Mountain Woodturners** will have [Jacques Vesery](#) on November 15<sup>th</sup> and [Keith Tompkins](#) on December 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Meeting Night Change Consideration:

Bob mentioned in his article on the first page that a change in our meeting night from the first Tuesday to the second Tuesday is under consideration. Please review his comments so we can make a decision at the November meeting. If we change, it would most likely become effective with the January 2009 meeting.



**Watching Allan Batty**

**PHOTOS FROM OCTOBER INSTANT GALLERY**

**WHEN YOU BRING ITEMS FOR THE GALLERY, PLEASE LOG IT IN SO WE CAN PROPERLY ASSIGN CREDIT.**

**Photos by Jim Terry.** *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>*



Jim Terry – Ornaments Yew, Sea Urchin, Maple



Carter Deaton – Beach Bowl



Carter Deaton – Beach Bowl



Carter Deaton – Walnut Ornament



Gene Briggs – Walnut Bowl



Gene Briggs – Cherry Bowl



Thea Gutierrez – Sea Urchin, Box Elder Ornament



Gabby Gutierrez – Sea Urchin, Bloodwood Ornament



Bob Moffett – Walnut, Yellowheart Box



Richard Coates – Box Elder Bowl



Lisa Mason – Cherry, Walnut Vase



Joe Nelson – Cherry Vase



Joe Nelson – White Oak Burl Vase



Joe Nelson – White Oak Bowl



Alfred Thomas – Oak Burl Bowl



Alfred Thomas – Sourwood Vase



Linda Michael – Platter Pyrography



Earl Kennedy – Turkey Call



Earl Kennedy – Candle Sticks



Earl Kennedy - Ornament



Jack Walters - Mahogany Vase



Jack Walters - Canarywood Bowl



Doc Green – Plum Bowl w/ Finial & Tops



Doc Green – Thickness Gauges



Jim Barbour – Bubinga Plate w/ inlay



Jim Barbour – Bubinger Toothpick Holder



Bruce Schneeman - Oak Burl Hollowform



Bruce Schneeman – Camphor Hollowform



George Sudermann – Cedar Bowl



George Sudermann – Maple, Turquoise Plate



George Sudermann – Maple Turquoise Bowl



Jim Yarbrough – Spalted Cherry Nightlight



Jeff Clark – Maple Bowl



Jeff Clark – Maple Bowl



Jeff Clark – Maple Bowl



Jim Duxbury – Bloodwood, Canary wood Kaleidoscope



Jim Duxbury – Lacewood, Maple Kaleidoscope



Casey Glosser– Bradford Pear Bowl, Cherry Foot



Doc Green – Platter with Top



Segmented Balls with no endgrain showing



Red Saunders - Bowl



Red Saunders - Hollowform

**CHAPTER OFFICERS**

Bob Moffett, President 2416 Wimbleton Circle Burlington, NC 27215 (336) 229-6141 <a href="mailto:bc_moffett1@bellsouth.net">bc_moffett1@bellsouth.net</a>	John Morris, Vice President 807 Cliftwood Drive Siler City, NC 27344 (919) 742-5148 <a href="mailto:jmjr1@hotmail.com">jmjr1@hotmail.com</a>	Lisa Mason, Secretary 531 Bennett Rd. Stoneville, NC 27048 (336) 427-3059 <a href="mailto:ljmram@earthlink.net">ljmram@earthlink.net</a>	Bob Holtje, Treasurer 9430 Ridge Gate Rd. Lewisville, NC 27023 (336) 945-0502 <a href="mailto:bob@holtje.com">bob@holtje.com</a>	Paige Cullen, At Large Mbr. 3608-11 East Lee Street Greensboro, NC 27406 (336) 402-7699 <a href="mailto:nighteagle317@yahoo.com">nighteagle317@yahoo.com</a>
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**EX OFFICIO**

James Duxbury, Prog Chair 3141 Shelly Graham Drive Graham, NC 27253 (336) 227-7168 <a href="mailto:cyberdux@bellsouth.net">cyberdux@bellsouth.net</a> <a href="http://www.duxterity.com/ec">www.duxterity.com/ec</a>	Jim Terry, Newsletter, Website 111 Anita Drive Winston-Salem, NC 27104 (336) 768-0033 <a href="mailto:jimterry@bellsouth.net">jimterry@bellsouth.net</a>	Mike Evans, Photographer 172 Longwood Dr. Eden, NC 27288 (336) 453-4134 <a href="mailto:mikeevanspt@yahoo.com">mikeevanspt@yahoo.com</a>	Rita Duxbury, Librarian 3141 Shelly Graham Drive Graham, NC 27253 (336) 227-7168 <a href="mailto:cyberdux@bellsouth.net">cyberdux@bellsouth.net</a>
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**MEETING LOCATION: Leonard Recreation Center ((336) 297-4889).**

★ 6324 Ballinger Road, Greensboro, NC 27410-9062

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**To the Leonard Recreation Center**  
Phone: (336) 297-4889  
Some of the signage is confusing, so be careful.

**FROM WEST OF GREENSBORO**

1. Take I-40 E.
2. Take exit number 213.
3. Turn RIGHT onto GUILFORD COLLEGE RD.
4. GUILFORD COLLEGE RD becomes COLLEGERD.
5. COLLEGE RD becomes NEW GARDEN RD.
6. Turn SHARP LEFT onto BALLINGER RD.
7. Leonard Recreation Center is about 1 mile on the right.

**FROM EAST OF GREENSBORO**

1. Take I-85 S/I-40 W/US -29 S.
2. Take the I-40 WEST/US -220 SOUTH exit, exit number 123, towards WINSTON-SALEM (US -421 N).
3. Merge onto I-40 W/US -220 S.
4. Stay straight to go onto I-40 W.
5. Take exit number 213.
6. Keep RIGHT at the fork in the ramp.
7. Merge onto GUILFORD COLLEGERD.
8. GUILFORD COLLEGE RD becomes COLLEGERD.
9. COLLEGE RD becomes NEW GARDEN RD.
10. Turn SHARP LEFT onto BALLINGER RD.
11. Leonard Recreation Center is about 1 mile on the right.

**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: \$24.00 per year. Dues paid In October each year. We prorate dues if you are joining at other times of the year.  
Oct/Nov/Dec \$24.00; Jan/Feb/Mar \$18.00; Apr/May/Jun \$12.00; Jul/Aug/Sep \$6.00.

For those who desire to receive the newsletter via US Mail the dues will be:  
Oct/Nov/Dec \$30.00, Jan/Feb/Mar \$22.50, Apr/May/Jun \$15.00, Jul/Aug/Sep \$7.50.

Please make check payable to Piedmont Triad Woodturners Association.  
Mail to: Bob Holtje 9430 Ridge Gate Rd. Lewisville, NC 27023