



Gulf Coast Woodturners Association

GCWA Newsletter

Gulf Coast Woodturners Association

August 2000 Issue

President's Corner

The TTT mailers have been sent out to all Texas wood turners. If you have not received yours yet, let me know at the meeting and I will contact Butch and Pat Titus and have one sent to you. Jim Keller, Joe Millsap, Doug Clark, and I will be assigned to Tent 2 in the back 40 area. The G.C.W.A. is responsible for equipping and maintaining this Tent area. I only see one problem, Jim Keller needs a large lathe with a variable speed to do his demonstration. This would not ordinarily be a problem, however, the tent site has only 110v electricity available. If anyone has a lathe that would meet these specifications and would be willing to let us use it at the TTT, please let me know as soon as possible.

I am going to spend a few months discussing design. This will not be an in depth analysis but rather a look at some of the **principles** and **elements** and how they fit into wood turning. The function of an object is important to consider when designing a project. For example, a candle holder will be no good if it can not hold a candle. Within the scope of function there are other factors to consider when developing your product. This would be where the **elements** of design come in. These elements to watch for are lines, shape, mass, tone, color, and texture. The **principles** of design are broader in scope than the elements and they are balance, proportion, rhythm, harmony, and emphasis.

As you can see there are many things to consider when designing a turned piece. If you break these down and understand them, the design process becomes less confusing. It does not become easier, just less confusing. The more you work on design and look at other 'good' designs the easier the process becomes.

A good design is composed of certain basic **elements** along with several es-

Coming Events

By Mack DeBose

I am sure that most woodturners, at one time or other, have had the desire to turn a set of chessmen. I have had an ongoing such project for several years that never seems to get fully cranked up. This due mainly to a lack of knowledge and the quantity of pieces involved since I am committed to build two sets. This adds up to 64 separate turnings.

Our program this month is being presented by Gary Rodgers who will not only provide instructions of how to turn chessmen but also how to make the pieces attractive and consistent. Hopefully he can also provide some insight into how to overcome the quantity problem.

Following Gary's presentation, it would be great if some knowledgeable members could provide plans or ideas for wooden chess boards. While not a woodturning function, I am sure anyone undertaking a chessman project would be inclined to build a board that would complete the chess set.

**August Meeting
August 19, 2000
Woodwright Woodworking
1407 Spring Cypress, Spring,**

**This will be your last newsletter
if your membership dues expired
June 30, 2000.**

sential **principles** of design combined to perform a function. Nothing to it! Next time we will look at balance as well as a brief definition of the **elements**.

Thomas Irvén

GCWA Web Sites:

[Http://www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org](http://www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org)

[Http://get.to/gcwa](http://get.to/gcwa)

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GCWA is affiliated with the American Association of Woodturners. GCWA meetings are usually held at 9:00 AM on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Check the Calendar of Events page. Annual dues are \$18. Dues may be mailed to Helen Young, 2502 Esther Ave., Pasadena, TX 77502-3239. Make your check payable to GCWA or Gulf Coast Woodturners Assn.