



Gulf Coast Woodturners Association

GCWA Newsletter

Gulf Coast Woodturners Association



President's Corner

Spring Retreat VI, May 18-19 at Montgomery Fair Grounds in Conroe is almost here. **Bill Berry** is our new Retreat Educational Director. The rotation sheet will be in this newsletter. Always subject to change, Always expanding. Now is the time to plan your schedule.

Sign up for registration now with the Registration form elsewhere in this newsletter. Fill it out and bring it to the April meeting, with check or money to give to Helen.

We have 32 lathes committed. We need a minimum of 16 more. If you have a portable grinder please commit to bring it to Retreat. We would like to have at least 6 grinders. We would also like to have 2 leaf blowers for cleaning up.

Other things you need to bring:

- Wood
- Extension Cords
- Lights
- Tools
- Face Shields
- Gallery Items

EVERYTHING LABELED WITH YOUR NAME!!!!

Good News, We will have the same caterer for both days. Vernon's Kuntry Katfish. If you would like to eat, you need to sign up in advance so we can notify them of how many participants we have.

Bill Hubbard gave an excellent demonstration at our last meeting. You will have the opportunity to receive hands on instruction from Bill at the Retreat.

See you at the meeting. Boyce

Stacy Hager Featured Retreat Demonstrator

By Bill Berry

Mr. Stacy Hager of Austin will be our featured demonstrator at the 2002 Spring Retreat. I have had the pleasure of spending the day turning and sharing ideas with Stacy in his shop in Austin. It is going to be a real treat to have him at our retreat for two whole days. He will share with us how to make and use traditional European spindle tools. Stacy explains it like this: "European tradesmen were paid on the basis of the number of acceptable pieces they could turn in a day. They experimented and passed on the designs of tools that were inexpensive to make, easy to keep sharp, and which would do the job quickly and smoothly. During the Industrial Revolution, duplicators replaced craftsmen and many of these hand tools were lost. Fortunately, a few apprentices were taught or observed the use of these almost extinct tools.

"In the United States as in Europe, turning by hand almost died out. The recent resurgence came mainly through the modern art and craft movement. Most of the teachers in this movement were not tradesmen, did not come to turning through apprenticeship, and had no way of learning about these tools. As a result, we are just now beginning to see these tools in our shops. I was taught to use these tools by Jean-Francois Escoulen (Turner and de bois de France) and by Allen Batty (Master Tradesman of England). I am happy to pass on what I have learned to you. Perhaps you will pass it along also." Stacy will have three hours on Saturday and Sunday mornings to demonstrate the construction and use of some of these tools.

April 2002 Issue

GCWA Web Sites:

- [Http://www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org](http://www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org)
- [Http://get.to/gcwa](http://get.to/gcwa)

Inside this issue:

<i>President's Corner</i>	1
<i>Stacy Hager</i>	1
<i>Club News</i>	2
<i>Classified Ads</i>	2
<i>Membership</i>	2
<i>Woodturning Tips</i>	2
<i>Spring Retreat New Look</i>	2
<i>Show & Tell</i>	3
<i>Exotic Hardwoods</i>	3
<i>Woodturning in Brazil</i>	4
<i>Retreat Schedule</i>	5/6
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	7
<i>This Month</i>	7
<i>Program</i>	7
<i>Executive Committee</i>	7
<i>Internet Website URL's</i>	8

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.

**April Meeting ~ April 20, 2002
The Hardwood Lumber Company
700 East 5 1/2 Street
Houston, TX
(713) 862-6628**

Club News and Announcements

◆ It is time for Club Officers election. A nominating committee composed of Board members **Thomas Irven** and **Greg Gonsalves** has compiled a list of candidates. They are as follows: President—**Ernie Bahr**, Vice-President—**Bruce Dolen**, Treasurer—**Helen Osteen**, Board Members—**Marty Kaminsky, Janice Levi, Carl Blair, Brian Laing, and Tom Enloe**. The Election Ballot is enclosed in the mail-out copy of the Newsletter. Those receiving emailed Newsletters will receive emailed ballots. The ballots must be received by Helen no later than April 30. Note that write-ins can be entered for each position. The winners will be announced in the May Newsletter and at the Spring Retreat.

Woodturning Tips

Dishwashing Soap Protectant

This month's tip is derived from an article appearing in the Spring 2002 issue of AAW's "American Woodturner". While the article, "Soapy Bowls" by Ron Kent & Phil Wall is very explicit, there is nothing like hands-on experience. This was provided by our club member, Kip Powers, whom I had to the pleasure to visit at his home in Rogers, AR last month. He and members of their local woodturning club have been using this process to treat roughed out green wood turnings to prevent checking, cracking and distortion. It consists of coating the turning with a solution of dishwashing liquid detergent (cheapest available) and water at a 1 to 1 ratio. Several applications are made until the wood appears to be adequately coated. Al-

New Look for 2002 Spring Retreat

By Bill Berry

This year the Spring Retreat will have a slightly different look. There are three (3) areas:

Hands on Help- In this area there are four experienced and knowledgeable turners with lathes and no planned structure. **Luna Ford, Don Philpott, Greg Gonsalves** and **Don Fluker**, will be available to assist mainly beginning turners on any phase of turning that they may need help with. They are there for your turning needs. No time limit.

Demonstration Area 1 & 2- These areas will have a lathe set up in each area and seating for the attendees. The instructor/demonstrator can show turning techniques, use of tools or a special topic. It can be as formal or informal as the instructor wants it to be. Most of these sessions will last 1 hour and 25 minutes to 3 hours for **Stacy Hager**. Instructors will be **Stacy Hager, Murray Powell, Lyman Frugia, Tom Enloe, Dave Greenwalt, Ernie Bahr, Greg Gonsalves** and **Marty Kaminsky**.

Hands On Area- There will be four (4) of these areas, and there will be 6 lathes set up in each. This is the traditional retreat "hands on" area. The instructors will guide the students through a step by step process of turning a project relative to a specific topic. This session will last up three (3) hours. Instructors for this area will include **Bruno Wesołek, By Reed, Bill Berry, Diana Gahagan, Bill Hubbard, Thomas Irven, Brian Laing, Luna Ford** and **Don Fluker**.

This year's retreat will cover subjects from chain sawing a log preparing it to go on the lathe to sanding the finished projects. (See attached schedule for details.) We will have some of the best turners sharing their techniques and skills, and there will be a place for all skill levels to come, and learn, and enjoy woodturning, and great food is on the agenda also, (included in the \$40 cost of admission). Make plans now to come and join in May 18th and 19th, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Conroe, Texas.

Membership

We had three new members to join in March. Welcome to:

Dave Barziza, Corky Powell, and Wade Norman

ternately, the turning can be submerged in a container of the solution. In this case a weaker solution is used in order to provide adequate coverage. Kip is very adamant that this process does everything that the AAW article claims and highly recommends it to anyone who turns green wood.

Classified Ads

FOR SALE

Lathe for sale: Myford Model ML8 with bed extension and variable speed. Asking price: \$1100.00. Thomas Irven, 713-666-6881, tom@thomasirven-art.com

16" DELTA Bandsaw (3 wheel) with stand, fence and miter gauge in excellent condition for \$200.00 (OBO).—Don Fluker, 281-855-8230, Skewgouge1@cs.com.

This will be your last newsletter if your membership dues expired on February 28, 2002.

Show & Tell

Winners at the **March** meeting at **The Cutting Edge** were:

Beginner Category

- 1st Place — **Janice Levi** for a Goblet of Poplar
2nd Place — **Janice Levi** for an Elm Urn
3rd Place — **Grady Whiddon** for a Mesquite Plate

Intermediate Category:

- 1st Place — **Grady Whiddon** for a Carob Bowl
2nd Place — **Bill Lewis** for Spalted Road Kill Vase
3rd Place — **Doug Davis** for a Mesquite Vase

Advanced Category:

One Piece Turning

- 1st Place — **Brian Laing** for a Large Pecan Bowl
2nd Place — **Bill Berry** for a Tall Vessel of Spalted Sycamore
3rd Place — **Dave Greenawalt** for a Small Maple Burl Bowl

Multiple Piece Turning:

- 1st Place — **Gary Rodgers** for a Lidded Urn of Russian Olive
2nd Place — **Karrie Greenawalt** for a Segmented Urn of Unknown Wood
3rd Place — **Earl Rogers** for a Mesquite Weed Pot

Special Award — **Dale Barrack** for a Sweet Gum Bowl

Special thanks to our Judges;

Jonathan Bartz and **Greg Gonsalves**

Pictures of these turnings can be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org> and <http://get.to/gcwa>

Editor's Note: This article was obtained from the Hibdon Hardwood website at <http://www.hibdon-hardwood.com>

Exotic Hardwoods: Zebrawood

Common Name: Zebrawood

Other Common Names: Zebrano, Zingana

Botanical Name: Microberlinia brazzavillensis

Family: Leguminosae

Mature Tree Height, Diameter: 150 ft, 4-5 ft

Weight @ 12% M/C: 37-55 lbs./ft.³

Working Properties: Saws fairly well, a clean finish is sometimes difficult to obtain due to interlocked grain. Glues well.

Growing Regions: West Africa, mainly in Gabon and Cameroon.

General Characteristics: Heartwood pale yellow brown with narrow darker streaks, striping pattern varies considerably; sapwood white up to 4 in. wide, distinct. Texture medium to coarse; grain usually wavy or interlocked; lustrous; unpleasant odor disappears after drying.

Uses: Decorative veneers, turnery, tool handles.

Acceptable Substitutes:

References: "Tropical Timbers of the World", USDA Handbook #607, Sept. 1984, p. 247

Discussion: Turnings, boxes, etc. can be very striking, but getting a good finish requires good technique. The smell of the wood during machining can be most unpleasant.



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281-435-7712 Mob.

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Houston, TX 77083



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WWW.DADWOOD.COM

Woodturning in Brazil

By Jeff Schrader

For those of you who have wondered what became of Jeff Schrader, I can tell you that he is alive, well and working temporarily in Rio de Janeiro. While Rio is a fascinating city, with beautiful beaches, great food and wonderful people, I am missing my daily sessions of making shavings and sawdust on my trusty lathe. I have been here about six months now and not a day goes by that I don't think about being in my garage back home, sweating over a large spinning piece of wood.

Not one to miss a hobby opportunity while making a living, I have tried to investigate purchasing some Brazilian hardwoods to bring home and add to my ever-growing wood pile. In Brazil, its not as easy as you would think. The timber industry is very tightly controlled and sales of certified lumber that can be exported without a myriad of hassles and permits is restricted to just a few companies that have the requisite government permission and paperwork. In my searching, I found a professional woodturner living in Southern Brazil, in the city of Joinville, who not only sells FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified timber (he does export about 25 different varieties), but he also offers classes in woodturning. I couldn't believe my luck when I found this out. His name is Pedro Emilio Petry and he has a website that you should visit to know more about him and his work. The address is: www.petry-woodturning.com.br/eng.html. Be sure you type the 'eng.html' extension, otherwise you will see it in Portuguese rather than English.

Pedro's classes are tailored to suit your skills and experience and can accommodate up to 3 turners at one time. In February, I flew to Joinville, about 1½ hours South of Rio for a weekend class (Saturday and Sunday). Pedro's English is adequate, but just to be certain that I would not miss anything, he asked a fellow woodturning friend who had lived in Houston for about 10 years to assist

in the translation. His name is Edgardo Goyret. As I was the only one taking a class on that particular weekend, the three of us worked well together and immediately became excellent friends. Joinville is a German community (with great German food) and many of the residents still speak German as their primary language. So, Pedro would teach in a mix of English, German and Portuguese and Edgardo would translate into Houston English. No problem at all.

The class was a huge success and I was able to finish a thin walled vessel out of spalted Araribá and a large thin platter out of Imbuya Burl before racing to the airport Sunday afternoon to fly back to Rio. Yes, I also bought as much wood as I could carry in the empty suitcases I brought with me. More Araribá, Jacarandá, Imbuya, Cipó and Pinho. You will eventually see how beautiful these timbers are when I return home and get a chance to turn them for the monthly show and tell. For the time being, you can take my word for it – they are gorgeous.

If you would like to see pictures, I have sent some to Mack DeBose that he can forward on to you. For those of you who are interested in costs, the airfare from Rio to Joinville and back is about \$280, local hotels are about \$45 per night, the two-day class was \$170 and the wood was sold by the pound and varied depending on the species and how much you want to buy (20% less for large orders by the pallet).

Some interesting side notes about Pedro; he is now beginning to market his own bowl gouges, made locally out of HSS and also his own line of finishes, primarily a blend of waxes. Woodturning in Brazil is still very new as an avocation or a business. Pedro is one of the few, if not the only one, who makes his living at it. Most of his work is sold through art and fine furniture galleries in Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. He is also

participating in the development of a new woodworking industry in the Amazon region, in which woodturning is a part of it. The name of this development is Aver Amazonia and they are finding ways to utilize fallen timber throughout Brazil in useful or artistic products, but at the same time they are also very concerned with the management and preservation of the Amazon rain forests. If you would like to know more about Pedro's timber sales, tools or artwork, you can e-mail him directly at pepetry@terra.com.br. His English is a little rough, but he does well enough to write you back. He is very interested in selling wood in North America and is also keen to learn from what we know about growing American woodturning interests.

So what do you think? Are you having a difficult time deciding where to take your next vacation that combines woodturning with exotic destinations? Think about Brazil and all that it has to offer. I would definitely recommend meeting Pedro and maybe taking a class or two from him. If you would like more information on how to go about doing that, please feel free to contact me at: jeffrey.mustang@Petrobras.com.br. You can also reach me by phone or mail using the information shown below. I miss all my good woodturning friends back home and look forward to telling you great stories about my experience in Brazil when I return. Until then, keep riding the bevel.

Your friend in woodturning,

Jeff Schrader
c/o Promenade Visconti
Rua Prudente de Moraes, 1050
Apartment 201A - Ipanema
22420-042 Rio de Janeiro, RJ Brasil

Phone: 55-21-2523-0400 home –
ask for Apartment 201A
work -- 55-21-3876-1659

Editor's Note: The excellent pictures that Jeff mentioned will be available on the GCWA Website or emailed upon request to lmdebose@swbell.net.

Saturday Session

	Hands On Help	Demo Area 1	Demo Area 2	Hands On 1	Hands On 2	Hands On 3	Hands On 4
9:00	* Luna Ford	Stacy Hager	Murray Powell	Bruno Wesolek	Don Fluker	Bill Berry	Diana Gahagan
10:25		Making and Using	Hollow Ornaments	Using the	Turning	Hollow	Turning
10:35	* Greg Gonsalves	Traditional European	Lyman Frugia	Skew	Inside/Outside	Turning	Spinning
12:00	* Don Philpott	Spindle Tools	Turning Miniatures		Ornaments		Tops

Lunch and Slide Presentation

1:00	* Luna Ford	Tom Enloe	Murray Powell	Bill Hubbard	Thomas Irven	Brian Laing	By Reed
2:25	* Don Fluker	Beyond In/Out Ornaments	Hollow Ornaments	Turning	Lidded	Bowl	Turning
2:35	* Greg Gonsalves	Dave Greenwalt	Ernie Bahr	Natural Edge	Boxes	Turning	Craft
4:00	* Don Philpott	Turning Boxes	Turning Thimbles	Bowls			Projects

Hands on Help - For beginning turners. In this area there are lathes and Instructors with no planned structure.

The instructors in this area will give guidance on safety, proper tool usage and techniques.

* These instructors will be available from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Demo Areas 1&2 - These areas are setup so that the instructor/demonstrator can teach a particular technique, tool or style. This session will last 1 hour and 25 minutes or 3 hours

Hands On Area - These areas are the traditional retreat "Hands On" areas. The Instructor will guide 6 students through a step by step process relative to his topic. This session would last a maximum of 3 hours.

Sunday Session

	Beginner Hands On	Demo Area 1	Demo Area 2	Hands On 1	Hands On 2	Hands On 3	Hands On 4
9:00	Luna Ford	Stacy Hager	Lyman Frugia	Bruno Wesolek	By Reed	Bill Berry	Diana Gahagan
10:25	Don Fluker	Making and Using	Turning Miniatures	Using the	Turning	Hollow	Turning
10:35	Greg Gonsalves	Traditional European	Ernie Bahr	Skew	Craft	Turning	Spinning
12:00	Don Philpott	Spindle Tools	Turning Thimbles		Projects		Tops

Lunch and Slide Presentation

1:00	Greg Gonsalves	Tom Enloe Beyond In/Out Ornaments	Marty Kaminsky	Bill Hubbard	Thomas Irven	Brian Laing	Luna Ford
2:25	Don Fluker	Dave Greenwalt	Turning Plates	Turning	Lidded	Bowl	Sharpening
2:35			Greg Gonsalves Tree to Lathe- Chainsaw	Natural Edge	Boxes	Turning	with
4:00	Don Philpott	Turning Boxes		Bowls			Jigs

Calendar of Events

Scheduled Meetings & Events

April 15, 2002 ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM ~ Boyce Gahagan ~ 20201 Fox Glen, Humble ~ 281-446-1590

April 20, 2002 ~ GCWA Meeting ~9:00 AM ~ Hardwood Lumber Co. ~ 700 E. 5-1/2 Str., ~ (713) 862-6628

May 6, 2002 ~ First Monday ~ 7:00 PM ~ The Cutting Edge Woodworker's and Tool Supply, 7123 Southwest Fwy., ~ 713-981-9228

May 13, 2002 ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM ~ Boyce Gahagan ~ 20201 Fox Glen, Humble ~ 281-446-1590

May 18 & 19, 2002 ~ GCWA Annual Spring Retreat ~ Montgomery County Fairgrounds

June 3, 2002 ~ First Monday ~ 7:00 PM ~ The Cutting Edge Woodworker's and Tool Supply, 7123 Southwest Fwy., ~ 713-981-9228

June 10, 2002 ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM ~ Boyce Gahagan ~ 20201 Fox Glen, Humble ~ 281-446-1590

June 15, 2002 ~ GCWA Meeting ~9:00 AM ~ By Reed's new shop at Chapel Hill, TX

July 1, 2002 ~ First Monday ~ 7:00 PM ~ The Cutting Edge Woodworker's and Tool Supply, 7123 Southwest Fwy., ~ 713-981-9228

July 15, 2002 ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM ~ Boyce Gahagan ~ 20201 Fox Glen, Humble ~ 281-446-1590

July 20, 2002 ~ GCWA Meeting ~ 9:00 AM ~ The Cutting Edge Woodworker's and Tool Supply, 7123 Southwest Fwy., ~ 713-981-9228

August 5, 2002 ~ First Monday ~ 7:00 PM ~ The Cutting Edge Woodworker's and Tool Supply, 7123 Southwest Fwy., ~ 713-981-9228

August 12, 2002 ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM



Meeting Location This Month

April 20 ~ 9:00 AM ~ The Hardwood Lumber Company ~ 700 East 5 1/2 Street ~ 713-862-6628

Meeting Program

Undecided at present but always interesting and informative.

Executive Committee

President	Boyce Gahagan	(281) 446-1590	Boycegahagan@aol.com
Vice President	By Reed	(281) 980-9793	fun@neosoft.com
Treasurer	Helen Young	(713) 475-2940	helen@osteenjewelry.com
Past President	Thomas Irven	(713) 666-6881	trirven@academicplanet.com
Board Member	Marty Kaminsky	(281) 339-3297	martykami@aol.com
Board Member	Greg Gonsalves	(281) 998-8662	
Board Member/Webmaster	Bruce Dolen	(713) 787-6962	bdolen@tydemandolen.com
Board Member	Vic Vucinovich	(713) 923-6254	
Board Member/Editor	Mack DeBose	(281) 537-1814	Lmdebose@swbell.net
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Email: gcwa@jalepeno.com &
lmdebose@swbell.net
<http://www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org>
<http://get.to/gcwa>

Program Chairman
Thomas Irven
Phone: 713-666-6881
Email: trirven@academicplanet.com

Internet Web Sites of Interest

American Association of Woodturners: <http://www.woodturner.org>
Robert Sorby: <http://www.robert-sorby.co.uk/turning.htm>
Woodturning Supply Sources: <http://www.rtpnet.org/~twnc/sources.html>
Wood Magazine: <http://www.woodmagazine.com>
The Cutting Edge: <http://www.cuttingedgetools.com>
Craft Supply: <http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/index.html>
Triangle Woodturners of North Carolina: <http://www.rtpnet.org/~twnc>
Tidewater Turners of Virginia: <http://www.esva.net/~woodturner>
North Carolina Woodturners Association: <http://www.charweb.org/organizations/hobbies/woodworking/ncwa>
Fred Holder's More Woodturning: <http://www.fholder.com>
Exotic Burl: <http://www.exoticburl.com>
San Diego WoodTurning Center, Inc.: <http://www.sdwoodturning.com>
Kestrel Creek Gallery: <http://www.kestrelcreek.com>
Hibdon Hardwoods: <http://www.hibdonhardwood.com>
Dallas Area Woodturners: <http://www.turningwood.com>
Robert Spragg: <http://users.mwci.net/~rspragg/>
Woodcraft: <http://www.woodcraft.com>
Christian Burchard: <http://www.burchardstudio.com>
Texas Turn or Two: <http://www.texasturn.org>
Boyce Gahagan: <http://bgpenandtoolsupplies.com>

GCWA Web Sites:

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

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



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