



Gulf Coast Woodturners Association

GCWA Newsletter



Gulf Coast Woodturners Association

President's Corner

Our February meeting was certainly well attended and we had a large number of guests and new members. This was partially due to the interest generated in woodturning at the Reliant Center Tool Show. We welcome our new members and the enthusiasm and interest that they bring to the club.

We are thankful that Houston Center for Contemporary Craft was able to host our meeting. I hope that those who attended took some time to look at the exhibits in the gallery. It's always enjoyable to meet at HCCC because we have a great opportunity to be exposed to such a remarkable variety of artistry and craftsmanship.

Quite a few members took advantage of the tool and wood swap at the meeting. I saw some really impressive pieces of wood being exchanged and quite a few tools. We hope to continue having these swaps on a regular basis.

Greg Gonsalves demonstrated the fine art of hat turning. Greg has made hats of all sizes and we all continue to marvel at his ability to make such realistic hats. Thank you, Greg, for sharing how it's done with the members.

Waymon Campbell was a guest speaker at the meeting and he talked to us about a national project with which he has become involved. The project is the making of ball point pens for members of the military overseas. The endeavor is called the Freedom Pens Project. If you were unable to attend the meeting and pick up a brochure on how you can participate, please refer to our February newsletter which contains all of the information for making and

submitting the pens that you turn. As a result of the Reliant Center Tool Show, two gallery owners have contacted GCWA and expressed an interest in having woodturnings in their galleries. The galleries are Rustic Roundup in Spring **Nino Boswell**, owner; 281-703-5252) and Mina Galerie at 1314 West Gray 713-463-6462). GCWA nor I in any way endorse either of these two galleries nor can we vouch for their standing in the community. If you do decide to call, please exercise caution and ask a lot of questions about insurance on pieces while on display and contracts. You might want to ask one of our members who does display in galleries to advise you.

A great place for you to exhibit your turnings is through GCWA's own "Members Gallery" on the website. Submit up to six photos of your turnings for display to **Bruce Dolen** or **Tom Enloe**.

The election of officers and Board members is close at hand. If you would like to run for president, vice-president, secretary, or for one of the five board positions, please contact **Ernie Bahr**, chairman of the nominations committee. We encourage you to participate in this meaningful way to support your organization.

Finally, our Retreat is scheduled for May 22 and 23 at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. This is a great opportunity for beginning, intermediate and advanced turners to participate in hands-on sessions. If you would like to work as a guest turner, please contact **Brian Laing** and let him know that you are interested and what it is

March 2004

GCWA Web Sites:

[Http://www.gulfcoast-woodturners.org](http://www.gulfcoast-woodturners.org)

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

Guest Professional Trent Bosch

This is the final notice for the Trent Bosch Demonstration and Hands-On sessions. There are still reservations available for both but there probably will not be any admissions available for sale at the door to the demonstration and all Hands-On attendance must be reserved beforehand.

The date of the Demonstration is March 27th and will be held at the Homewood Studios in Kingwood. (See map elsewhere in this Newsletter.)

The Hands-On Sessions will be held Sunday, March 28, thru Thursday, April 1, at Diana and Boyce Gahagan's studio in Humble. Contact either of them for directions.

See the January and February GCWA Newsletters for details and requirements. These Newsletters are available on the GCWA website at www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org.

**March Meeting, March 20, 2004
The Hardwood Lumber Company
770 E. 5th 1/2 St.
Houston, TX**

that you would like to teach. Also, if you have a specific demonstration or hands-on session in mind that you would like to have presented at the Retreat, also contact Brian with your comments or requests.

For all of you out there who love to turn spalted wood, now is the time. It's been raining so much that everything is fairly well spalted or rotted. If you can find a dry stick to turn, get out in the shop and make some shavings.

Janice Levi

Show & Tell

Winners at the February meeting held at The Houston Center for Contemporary Craft were:

Beginner Category

- 1st Place — **Gene Volentine** for a Small Live Oak Bowl
2nd Place — **Gene Volentine** for a Quilted Maple Bowl
3rd Place — **Gene Volentine** for a Bubinga Hollow Form

Intermediate Category

- 1st Place — **Tom Basse** for a Lidded Music Box of Pecan
2nd Place — **Bill Tilson** for a Southwest Hollow Form of Red Oak
3rd Place — **Bill Pottorf** for a Hackberry Vase

Advanced Category

- 1st Place — **Bob Brown** for an Ash Vase
2nd Place — **Woody Woodard** for a Large Mesquite Vase
3rd Place — **Jim Keller** for an Art Form Wheel of Oak

Segmented

- 1st Place — **Bill Pottorf** for a Salt and Pepper Mill Set of Walnut & Mahogany
2nd Place — None
3rd Place — None

Enhanced

- 1st Place — **Bob Brown** for an Inlaid Saucer of Zebrawood, Bloodwood, Ebony & Mesquite Sapwood
2nd Place — **Kendal Westbrook** for a Hollow Form of Box Elder & Mesquite
3rd Place — **Jack Hanley** for a Madrone Apple

Special thanks to our Judges;

Paul Millo and
Andy Chen

Pictures of these turnings can be viewed at www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org and go.to/gcwa

Book Review

Spirit of the Trees Science, Symbiosis and Inspiration

Author: Fred Hageneder

Reviewed by Tobias Kaye

This is a most remarkable book. It is with delight that I recommend it to you.

Too often books on trees or wood that I have enjoyed have been one sided. Either beautiful, but lacking in real substance; or fascinating in their technical detail, but without any artistry. This book explores both the beauty and the science, viewed through the eye of man's relationship with trees.

"The Spirit of Trees" is a book in two halves. Each blended seamlessly into the other by their deep descriptions of everything arboreal.

In the first half Hageneder describes trees and forests as the foundation of life on earth. Trees underlie man's mastery of fire, the development of architecture, and of transport. Forests and their exploitation and decline underlie the rise and fall of nations and economies.

Nations are built not only by war and property, but by cultural identity. Trees have been deeply involved with this also (until the last, disastrous century). Hageneder traces the role of trees in sustaining human social life from pre-historic times through myth and the roots of early cultures to modern times.

Every point that Hageneder makes is backed up with a scientific reference or quote, which is good, for this author has explored the front edges of developing natural science to bring us some amazing details. You may hear the odd creaking as your mind is opened, but that is part of the richness of this book. For example the scientific mysteries and unanswered questions of water are, apparently exactly what make life on earth possible. Water is deeply affected by trees and forests. In its molecular structure and its springing as brooks, in its rising as sap and mist, in its falling as rain and in the health of its rivers, water depends on trees for a healthy cycle.

I also learned remarkable facts about the electromagnetic life of trees, how it fluxes over daily and annual rhythms, and how it regulates the magnetic field of the earth. This is backed up with world scale maps showing magnetic variations over forests and deforested areas.

On a smaller scale, the chapter Botanical Basics describes the inner structure of the tree, wood, bark sap leaves, how they differ between species, how they respond to injury and stress, and how they die to become the timber we so love to work with.

This is just half of the book. The second half describes the native trees of Europe and the Northern Hemisphere. Here rich paintings, beautiful photos and excellent drawings complement the text. The selection draws on ancient cultural traditions and adds in trees important to modern times, arriving at 24 trees representative of European culture. Each is given a chapter of its own.

Drawing on many years of studying the trees in their historical, cultural, and ecological standing, these chapters are subdivided into the following sections. Under Physical Appearance we get closely observed descriptions. Under Healing there is wide list of medicines, both mainstream, herbal, homeopathic, and floral that the tree is used for, even including descriptions of their making. Under Tradition, ancient lore, folk tales and fairy tales that give the tree importance are mentioned or described. One poem is dated at 1500BC. In Inspiration, the last section of each chapter, that part of the tree that poets and artists connect with is characterized with remarkable beauty and sensitivity. The author himself is an artist having

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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 due on January 1. Dues may be mailed to Helen Osteen, 2502 Esther Ave., Pasadena, TX 77502-3239. Make your check payable to GCWA or Gulf Coast Woodturners Assn.

Club News & Announcements

Lathes for the Spring Retreat

Lathes, Lathes, Lathes, we need more lathes. The success of our past retreats is growing by leaps and bounds. For everyone to participate, we need more equipment, 4 bandsaws, 4 grinders, and as many lathes as possible. Contact Boyce Gahagan ~ (281) 446-1590

The Freedom Pens Project

Several GCWA members are participating in The Freedom Pens Project that was presented at the February meeting by **Waymond Campbell**. This is an extremely worthwhile project that is spearheaded by the SawMill Creek Woodworkers Forums. This project is committed to providing 20,000 hand crafted pens to members of our armed forces serving at overseas locations this year (2004). The details and status can be obtained from their website, www.freedompens.us. If you are participating and have pens ready to ship, send them to the following address:

SarMill Creek C/O, Hampton Roads Online, 1213-H George Washington Memorial Highway, Yorktown, VA 23693. The telephone number is (757) 591-5300.

Members' Work Critique

There will be a "Members' Work Critique" at the March meeting. This will be an opportunity to have some of the more experienced and talented tuners in our club to critique your turnings. This provides a very useful tool for the participants to learn what they can do to improve the quality, artistic value and beauty of their work. So, be sure to bring one or two of your turnings for this event. Participation is entirely voluntary.

Library Corner

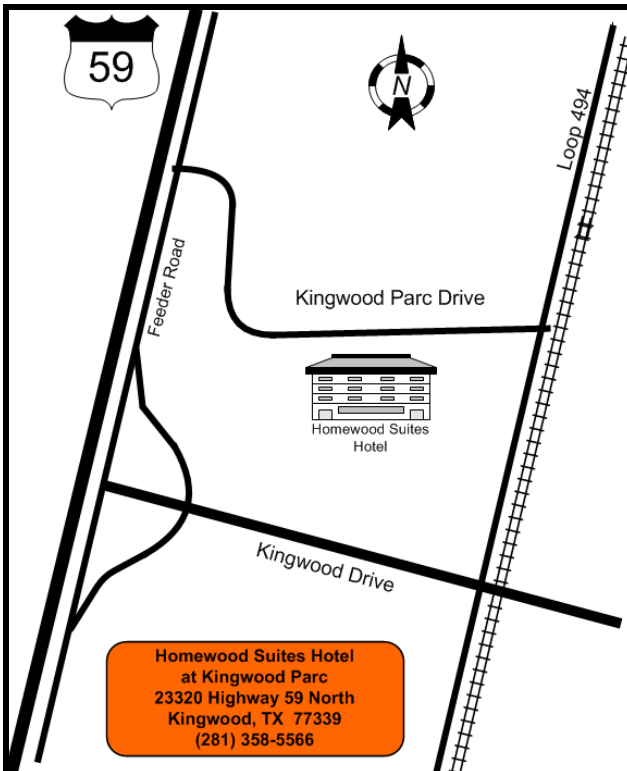
By Tom Enloe

OK, if you have a tape that has been checked out more than 3 months - SHAME on you - and shame on me for not having sent Guido to visit you yet!

I know....., we have good intentions but just forget the tapes as we rush out on Saturday morning. Seriously folks, if you ever intend to bring it back, then try for this month. I have replaced the tapes that have been out the longest and also a few tapes that had been missing. This amounts to about forty replacement tapes that will be added to the library since last month. This group of tapes includes many of the most popular ones, like the series by David Ellsworth, multiple tapes by Bonnie Klein and Chris Stott. Plus some individual tapes by Del Stubbs, Mike Mahoney, Ray Key and Richard Raffan. Also there are a series of beginner project tapes and a few unique ones of special interest tapes.

With these tapes and the ones have been out more than three months, we will have a full library cart again.

NOTE: Anonymous "plain brown wrapped" tapes are happily accepted.



The Homewood Suites Hotel is the location for the Trent Bosch Demonstration to be held on Saturday, March 27, 2004 from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

Book Review ~ (Cont'd)

Spirit of the Trees Science, Symbiosis and Inspiration

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painted some of the paintings and composed and performed music for cultural celebrations of trees. This rich combination of science, lore, poetry and art is for me the fullest compendium of the nature of trees that I have come across. I am thus writing to recommend it to you.

Tobias Kaye

Visit his website: www.tobiaskaye.co.uk/

Classified Ads

Woodturning related items of interest to GCWA
Members listed as a free service.

For Sale:

Nothing this month.

February Show & Tell Items



Woodturning Tip

Centered Holes In Light Pulls

The problem of drill wander while drilling holes for light pulls and other small projects with thru holes can be overcome with this process. Drill the cord holes and countersink for the cord knot on center in the rough or unturned blank. Chuck up a hardwood dowel of a diameter larger than the hole in the blank and turn a taper that can be jammed into the light pull blank. Mount the blank on the tapered dowel and support it with a live center in the tailstock. Turn the blank to shape using friction drive. This will assure that the cord hole is always true and concentric to the turned surfaces.

Membership

We had eight new members to join GCWA in February and two to rejoin. Welcome to:

**Gene Bradley, Gary Goodlett, Coy Henderson, Steve Higgins
David Murray, O'Farrell Rogers, Fred Winzel, and
Clete Zimmerman.**

Welcome back **Joe Burton** and **David Cobb**

Mentor Program

The following members have volunteered to serve as Club Mentors:

Jim Keller-----**(281) 438-1171**

By Reed-----**(979) 830-0917**

Bill Berry-----**(281) 479-8073**

Diana Gahagan **(281) 446-1590**

Marty Kaminsky **(281) 339-3297**

Ernie Bahr-----**(832) 476-3804**

Luna Ford-----**(281) 476-4159**

Brian Laing-----**(281) 580-5381**

If you would like to have one of these individuals talk with you about a particular piece, feel free to bring it to the meeting.

Highlights of the 2004 February Meeting



Woody Woodard talks about turning and finishing his award winning mesquite vessel.



Bill Metzger closely watches **Greg Gonzales** turn a miniature wooden hat.

Calendar of Events

Scheduled Meetings & Events

- March 15, 2004** ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM ~ Janice Levi's home ~ 1915 Van Buren Circle, Pasadena, TX ~ 713-475-2308
- March 20, 2004** ~ GCWA Meeting ~ 9:00 AM ~ The Hardwood Lumber Company ~ 700 E. 5th 1/2 St. ~ 713-862-6628
- March 27, 2004** ~ Trent Bosch Demonstration ~ 9:00 AM ~ The Homewood Suites Hotel at Kingwood Parc ~ 23320 Hwy. 59 N. ~ Kingwood, TX ~ (21) 358-5566
- March 28 - April 1, 2004** ~ Trent Bosch Hands On Sessions ~ 9:00AM ~ Boyce & Diana Gahagan's Studio ~ 20201 Fox Glen ~ Humble, TX ~ (281) 446-1590
- April, 2004** ~ Annual GCWA Election of Officers
- April 5, 2004** ~ First Monday ~ 7:00 PM ~ The Cutting Edge ~ 11760 S. Sam Houston Pkwy W. ~ 713-981-9228
- April 12** ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM ~ Janice Levi's home ~ 1915 Van Buren Circle, Pasadena, TX ~ 713-475-2308
- April 17, 2004** ~ Annual GCWA Picnic meeting.
- May 3, 2004** ~ First Monday ~ 7:00 PM ~ The Cutting Edge ~ 11760 S. Sam Houston Pkwy W. ~ 713-981-9228
- May 10, 2004** ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM ~ Janice Levi's home ~ 1915 Van Buren Circle, Pasadena, TX ~ 713-475-2308
- May 15, 2004** ~ GCWA Meeting ~ 9:00 AM ~ Mercer Arboretum ~ Aldine Westfield North of FM-1960
- May 22-23, 2004** ~ Annual GCWA Spring Retreat ~ Montgomery County Fairgrounds ~ Conroe, TX
- June 7, 2004** ~ First Monday ~ 7:00 PM ~ The Cutting Edge ~ 11760 S. Sam Houston Pkwy W. ~ 713-981-9228
- June 14, 2004** ~ Board Meeting ~ Location to be determined
- June 19, 2004** ~ GCWA Meeting ~ 9:00 AM ~ Houston Center for Contemporary Craft ~ 4848 Main
- July 5, 2004** ~ First Monday ~ 7:00 PM ~ The Cutting Edge ~ 11760 S. Sam Houston Pkwy W. ~ 713-981-9228
- July 12, 2004** ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM
- July 17, 2004** ~ GCWA Meeting ~ 9:00 AM



March Meeting Location

The Hardwood Lumber Company
700 E. 5th 1/2 St.
(713) 862-6628

March Meeting Program

Bruno Wesolek will demonstrate spindle turning.
Andy Chen and Jim Keller will lead a critique of members' work on a voluntary basis.

Executive Committee

President	Janice Levi	(713) 475-2308	TJLevi@swbell.net
Vice President	Brian Laing	(281) 580-5381	brian.laing@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Helen Osteen	(713) 475-8150	helen@osteenjewelry.com
Past President	Ernie Bahr	(832)-476-3804	ernie@jalepeno.com
Board Member	Greg Gonsalves	(281) 998-8662	
Board Member	Wayne Stanfield	(713) 867-3620	wayne.stanfield@moorewallace.com
Board Member	Diana Gahagan	(281) 446-1590	boycegahagan@aol.com
Board Member	Don Fluker	(281) 855-8230	skewgouge1@aol.com
Board Member/Librarian	Tom Enloe	(281) 580-1905	tomtom@houston.rr.com
SWAT/TTT Delegate	Bill Berry	(281) 479-8073	bberry2301@aol.com
Webmaster	Bruce Dolen	(713) 787-6962	bdolen@tydemandolen.com
Newsletter Editor	Mack DeBose	(281) 444-7993	Lmdebose@swbell.net

Email: gcwa@jalepeno.com

GCWA Websites:
www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org
<http://get.to/gcwa>

Program Chairman
Brian Laing

Internet Web Sites of Interest

American Association of Woodturners: <http://www.woodturner.org>

Robert Sorby: <http://www.robert-sorby.co.uk/turning.htm>

Wood Magazine: <http://www.woodmagazine.com>

The Cutting Edge: <http://www.cuttingedgetools.com>

Craft Supply: <http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/index.html>

Tidewater Turners of Virginia: <http://www.esva.net/~woodturner>

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>

Woodcraft: <http://www.woodcraft.com>

Christian Burchard: <http://www.burchardstudio.com>

Texas Turn or Two: <http://www.texasturnortwo.com>

Southwest Association of Turners: <http://www.texasturnortwo.com>

Boyce Gahagan: <http://bgpenandtoolsupplies.com>

Trent Bosch: <http://www.trentbosch.com>



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