



GULF COAST WOODTURNER

September, 2010



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I don't know about you, but I came back from SWAT with a new energy for my work. The annual symposium was again held in Waco, as it will be for the foreseeable future. The construction was a major hassle, and we ended up hosting a "room" that was bounded by curtains, but the demos were super and we all had a great time. Speaking of our room, the new A/V system worked flawlessly. Thanks to **Thomas Irven** and all those who have helped with this system. We did get a new speaker recently, and I'm hearing that it is a big improvement. If you don't agree, let me know.

Our lead demonstrator in Room 3 was **Molly Winton**, a very sweet and talented lady. Her daughter **Jean** was with her, and Jean even got to turn a pen! Now Molly has to learn how. Her demos were SRO, and our room assistant did a good job, too. Thanks to **Paula Haymond, John King, Delia Spicer, Tommy Joe, Lane Bradford, George Kabacinski, Don Dean and Kendall Westbrook** for volunteering to run the A/V system during at least one demo. They all did a professional job, and I'm sure the DVD's we produced will testify to this.

As always, the hands-on area at SWAT was run by our own **Don Fluker, Greg Gonsalves and Luna Ford**, with the help of many others. This area is always packed with earnest novices who benefit greatly from the help and guidance offered by our talented teachers.

The GCWA was well represented in the demonstrations, with **Jim Keller and Andy Chen** each doing several rotations to packed audiences. We did well in the raffles, too: **Stacie Grange** won the Powermatic 3520, and **George Kabacinski** went home with the JET 1642-1 (along with a pile of other stuff). I won two artist's pieces in the 2-4-1 raffle, a great piece by **Kendall Westbrook** that Guyla has lusted after, and the star piece (in my humble estimation) by **Molly Winton**. GCWA artists who donated to the 2-4-1 raffle were **Jim Keller, Andy Chen, Kendall, Dennis Ford, and Eddie James**. Perhaps most impressively, two of our member's pieces were chosen by lead demonstrators for the Instant Gallery Critique. The heavily carved vessel **Paula Haymond** showed at our last meeting was selected by **Clay Foster**, and **Mike Jackofsky** said that he loved one of **Kendall Westbrook's** dyed plywood pieces, despite Mike's love of burls and negative space so evident in his own work. **Don Fluker** also had a piece critiqued by one of the lead demonstrators. There

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

was beaucoup going on in Waco, so if I missed anything or anyone, I apologize.

We've got a lot coming up in the next few months, starting with the September demo by **Paula Haymond**, who will talk to us about her techniques for surface decoration. I'm sure you have joined me in awe of some of her recent work. In addition to giving us a meeting demo, Paula will be leading two small hands-on workshops on surface decoration. The first class is full, and I hear from **George Kabacinski** that there is one place left in the second class to be offered Oct 9 at George's shop. See George if you are interested.

The October meeting at the U of H Architecture shop will be followed by a hands-on pen turning workshop. The class will be open to both U of H students and the GCWA membership. Pens have been a very popular lathe project for almost 2 decades, and pen turning is enjoying a resurgence in recent years. We will have lathes, pen kits, wood and several experienced instructors on hand to guide you through it. See the article later in this newsletter describing this workshop.

In November (11/13, one week earlier than usual) we will be treated to the amazing talent of **Michael Hosaluk** from Saskatoon, SK. The meeting demo at Foxfire Studio will be on creative approaches to spindle turning, followed in the afternoon by a more extensive demo on turning a thin-walled bowl with a foot. All members and guests are welcome at the morning session, but a fee of \$35 will be assessed on the afternoon session, which includes a box lunch. Hands-on classes will be scheduled at Foxfire studio the following four days. All of Michael's demos concentrate on proper tool use, clean cutting, and originality. Exact topics and dates will depend on membership interest, but a tentative schedule follows:

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**September Meeting
September 18, 2010**

**Mercer Arboretum
22306 Aldine-Westfield Rd, Humble, TX**

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

Hands-on woodturning lessons by Jim Keller at Foxfire Studios. You pick the subject; learn with my tools or yours. Oneway 2436 and Jet 1642 lathes avail. Rates- 8 hour lesson, one person \$135.00, lunch included, add a second person for \$75.00. 4 hour lesson, one person \$65.00, two for \$40.00. Call 281-467-2866 for info.

INSTRUCTION: Current woodturning instructor for the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, **Thomas Irven**, will teach beginning to advanced participants turning in his Bellaire Studio. Classes will be individualized to your needs and tools will be available. Learn box making multi-axis, spindle, and bowl turning and finishing. Limited to 1 - 4 students. Call or e-mail Tom for pricing and information. 713-666-6881. trirven@sbcglobal.net.

FOR SALE: Olivewood Pen Blanks (3/4" x 3/4" x 5") - \$3.25 each. Have about 100. Olivewood Turning Blanks (1" x 1" x 6") - \$5.00 each. Have about 40. Douglas Grissom, 281-844-4397 (M), douglas.grissom@att.net

FOR SALE: Vintage Parks thickness planer in mint condition. Includes a top-mount table that turns the planer into a 12" jointer (similar to one in picture). Asking \$485. Contact Stacey Hager at 512-282-1036

Delta heavy duty lathe, 12 x 36". Cast iron frame and base (similar to one in picture). Price includes Vicmark four jaw chuck (VM-120), additional tool rests and other items. \$350



Craftsman 6 inch belt and 9 inch disc sander. \$50 Craftsman 6 inch Jointer/ Planer. \$60 Carl Blair, 713-946-6344

FOR SALE: Two too many middies, must sell, \$300.00 ea. Delta Midi w/bed extension, drive spur, live spur, knock out bar and tool rest School Model Rockwell - 10" x 36" variable speed, drive and live spur, tool rest. Heavy duty, recently refurbished. Ben Gray: 713-492-9148(M), beng@rigidbuilding.com

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Sunday: Twisty Box
Monday: Surface Decoration
Tuesday: Make a Ladle
Wednesday: Hollow and End-grain Turning

This schedule is subject to change to meet the needs of the members. We will begin the sign-up and collecting payment for the Saturday afternoon class and the daily hands-on sessions at the September meeting, so bring your checkbook and look for our Treasurer, **Jim Keller**.

We would like to get some help for **Ric Taylor**, who has been doing candid photographs at our monthly meetings forever. If you have a digital camera and the desire to snap a few candid snaps, please feel free. And be sure to thank Ric when you see him for all the great shots he has taken in the past.

We have not had a President's Challenge for a few months, so I have decided that with all the emphasis on post-lathe decoration at SWAT and within the GCWA, the theme of the Challenge for the October meeting will be "Surface Enhancement". Start thinking of what you can do to blow away the competition.

I look forward to seeing you all at Mercer Arboretum this September 18th, and keep making shavings.

Steve LeGrue

Piercing & Carving Class

By George Kabacinski

Based on advanced registrations **Paula Haymond's** class is sure to be a success. We have 6 students in the class on Saturday, September 25th. Plus there was a wait list in case someone cancelled. We've now turned the wait list into another class session to be held on Saturday, October 9th. And there is only one space remaining in the October 9th class!! If you want in on this highly anticipated day with Paula please contact George Kabacinski at gkabacinski@gmail.com or find him at the September meeting. The class fee is \$35.00 and a check to GCWA will hold your space in the October 9th class – provided you're the first to reach out to George and get the check to him.

In addition to the class fee there is a Materials Fee estimated to be \$30.00 which is due and payable directly to Paula at the start of the class. For additional details on the class please see the article in the July Newsletter or contact Paula Haymond directly at PJHaymond@comcast.net.

**Remember – only one space remains
so don't put this off too long!**

MEMBERSHIP

Ron Hedman and Jim Rice joined the club in the past month. Welcome aboard guys.

A Recap of SWAT

By Bill Pottorf

Diane and I attended the SWAT symposium in Waco, TX this year with great satisfaction and rewards. The weather did dry up with a drop in the humidity which helped considerably. There was a lot of construction going on in the convention center which added some inconvenience in the way of a limited number of meeting rooms and getting to and from the convention center for those of us staying at the Marriott. We were not informed of this shortcoming until a day or so prior to traveling to Waco. It would have been more convenient to stay at the Hilton but at greater cost. Next year will be much better with the convention center construction completed. Attendance was up with a record of 704 attendees this year.

GCWA was well represented in the Instant Gallery, the 2 for 1 raffle, the number of demonstrators, items critiqued by the lead demonstrators and winning items from the 2 for 1 raffle. **Jim Keller** and **Andy Chen** were regional demonstrators. **Andy Chen**, **Kendall Westbrook**, **Dennis Ford** and **Eddie James** each had pieces selected from the IG for the 2 for 1 raffle. Three of our members **Don Fluker** and **Kendall Westbrook** and **Paula Haymond** had pieces critiqued by the lead demonstrators. And of course, **Greg Gonsalves**, **Don Fluker** and **Luna Ford** held down the Hands on turning area which **Molly Winton** praised after her return home in the World of Woodturners site. Molly is ecstatic that her Daughter Jean now wants to become an avid turner thanks to Luna and Gregg's attentive help. That is really great, costing Mollie another \$300 for new tools for her. I must not forget that many of the group manned the battle stations for the GCWA room assistance. At least one of us may be a little short on knowhow with this new fangled equipment – age may be a factor too.

About 3 or 4 of our members were multiple winners of raffle items. The most appreciative and deserving winner was **Stacie Grange**, who won the Powermatic Lathe. She was literally thrilled beyond words and controllable emotions. I was so happy to see her win that lathe, which was signed by the lead demonstrators for her. Her winning that was a great moment to watch. The multiple winners of some great turnings from the lead demonstrators, 2 for 1 pieces and equipment contributors were **Steve LeGrue**,

Paula Haymond and **George Kabacinski**.

I will now discuss the fine demonstrations which I attended, Diane going to some of the other's.

Jim Keller's Hollow Forms with Negative Space: Jim did a fantastic job with some very large winged crotch pieces that would scare the **** out of me. I had never seen how Jim really controlled everything while hollowing and now I am ready to try one about 1/3 the size he does. Great demonstration.

Eli Avisera's Boxes with new ideas for texturing and coloring by off-center work, Square Bowl w/Off-Center texturing, and Goblet with Star Segment and trembleur. All 3 of these presentations by Eli were overflowing with people and he is a remarkably gifted turner using tools which are not common to our normal use here in the states. For one, he uses convex rather than a normal hollow ground bevel as you would get from the grindstone, for his skews, and some of his spindle gouges. He has many other tools which are self made to do some of the beautiful segmented star pattern work and he is fast and accurate with the tools. His only objection which I heard in the first talk is that our GCWA lathe was not properly yielding the 3000 rpm which he likes to use. Turns out that we may have to adjust the controller, because he did have the belt in the proper location. I think Gregg or Don may have cured that before his presentations on Sunday, because he then had no complaints.

George Kabacinski and **Andy Chen** were both present at the SIG meetings on Friday evening, with the Ornamental Turning and Segmented Sessions respectively. I attended the Ornamental Turning Session and became totally lost after Georges presentation with his ornamental lathe. The 2nd guy was way out of my league and I would have to go back to school at this point. It was fun to watch the session though.

Tom Farrell gave a tremendous talk on how to be a precision woodturner with his presentation on Hemispherical Christmas Ornaments. I had intended to go to **Alan Leland's** talk on his natural edge mushroom box but found out the next day from George that I had sat down in the wrong room. That's just old age creeping in. It was a very

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Gallery Etiquette

By Andy Chen

After I got home from the August meeting I looked at my ash hollow form with a bloodwood rim and saw a large area that had lost its sheen. This can happen when someone handled it with wet hands or worse yet, spilled some liquid on it. Judging from the shape of the area, I would say it is the latter. The club supplies drinks at our meetings which is nice, but it is up to the members to re-

frain from handling the pieces on the show-and-tell table when their hands are wet. Some of the finishes used on turnings are quite water resistant but others are not. You have no way of knowing how the piece that you are handling was finished. The proper way to do it is to make sure your hands are dry before you pick up any turnings on the table. I was fortunate this time because I was able to buff the piece and restore the original appearance. This does not always happen. So, please make sure your hands are dry before you pick up any turnings.

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good talk though, with lots of precise template's to be made, a specific chuck to be hand turned for holding the spherical ball which has to have rosettes turned on them. It was a very neat presentation and he might be worth getting as a demonstrator here in Houston.

Clay Foster turned a Multiple Axis Hollow Form Vessel. It was very interesting to watch Clay turn a really nicely shaped southwestern style form between centers, leaving waste blocks and tenons for gripping on each end. He then added a bevel to the outside edge of each waste block and shifted that beautifully shaped form at an offset angle between diagonally opposed centers. He then proceeded to completely destroy that nicely shaped form into a form which was totally unbalanced and flat on one end to the opposite side on the far end. Then he gets out this bead forming tool and added beads which were also not cut completely around the newly shaped form everywhere. To top this off, he now mounts the form in his chuck and starts hollowing. Now, those of us watching would naturally know that somewhere sometime he is going through the side of that piece. Well, he quit before that happened and said that you would have to be careful in the hollowing of this type of form. My guess is that he may have never really finished one of these on the lathe or he has done a lot of hand work to complete them. They would be very nice if completed. The session did become fun.

Mike Jackofsky from San Diego had a super presentation titled Natural Edge Burl Hollow Form. He is and outstanding turner and designs his own hollowing tools which I think he sells through Craft Supplies. This guy mounted a beautiful burl (Maple I believe?) which was green and turned a fine looking southwestern style form without any hesitations on his part. He talked while turning the form and watching the shadow (which a lot of these guys do –

Jim K, Clay F etc.) rather than the tool cut itself. He is very fast and takes aggressive cuts to achieve his superb forms. The real corker on his work is his hollowing. He does not use an outrigger with a torque arresting d handle or an elbow handle with pistol grip or anything else. He does it all freehand with straight handles and rides those handles like one would try to hold down a bucking horse or steer. Just amazing to watch but I don't know how he has managed to not be sent to the hospital that way. His work is really beautiful and many galleries represent him too.

I am going to mention **Andy Chen's** demo which I attended on Sunday a little out of place, so that we can cover **Molly Winton** last. Andy has designed a Cutting Frame for cutting spirals into cylindrical turnings. It was all accomplished through gears controlling the headstock spindle rotation and the movement of the cutting frame lengthwise along the cylinder. The spindle rotation could be reversed by selection of the proper gear to activate and the position of the cutter relative to the spindle diameter is selected using the lathe indexing head. We should get Andy to bring it to our meeting for a demonstration. He did a fine job in his overall demonstration as he always does.

Now for the last Demonstrator I sat in on – **Molly Winton**. She was in our room and many of us saw her. She does a fantastic job on texturing and pyrographic applications using self made nickel-chrome branding wire. I have tried her technique a little but found that I do not come close to the work effort she applies. She does outstanding work as Steve knows from winning one of her pieces. She brought her Daughter Jean for training by Luna, Gregg and Don.

A good time was had by all who came.

Gathering of The Guilds

The **Houston Center for Contemporary Craft** will once again host the **Gathering of The Guilds** on Saturday, September 25th. Of course, GCWA will be there with hands-on turning demos. To help out / demo at this event please contact **Jim Keller** at jimkeller.foxfire@comcast.net.

Gathering of The Guilds is part of Museum Day in Houston when all the museums in the museum district and the Houston Zoo are free to the public. This draws a good crowd and provides great visibility for GCWA at HCCC and allow us to bring woodturning to the public and to be part of this wonderful day in Houston. Whether you're involved in the demo or not be sure to take time to visit some of the great Houston museums and spend some time at the zoo.

Call for Powercrafter / NSK Carvers

As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, **Paula Haymond** will be leading a class on Piercing and Carving Thin Turnings on Saturday, September 25th and then again on Saturday, October 9th. She is in need of additional Powercrafter or NSK Carvers for these classes. If you have one (or more) and would be willing to loan it to GCWA for these classes please contact Paula Haymond at PJHaymond@Comcast.net or George Kabacinski at gakabacinski@gmail.com.

Pen Turning 101

By **George Kabacinski**

The October 16th GCWA meeting will be held at the University of Houston Keeland Center (a.k.a. Architecture Model Shop). After the general meeting and following a break for lunch we will have a Hands-On pen turning class. This will be a great opportunity for novice turners, guests and those who have never gotten around to turn a pen.

The structure of the class will be a combination of lecture and hands-on turning. We'll focus on the a basic pen – the Slimeline. While this is project can be a simple pen it can also be the basis for a myriad of pen styles and the basic methods we'll teach are applicable to nearly any pen kit you'd like to turn in the future.

We'll start with a short lecture / demo on preparing the pen blanks and various methods of finishing your pen project. Follow that we'll go to hands-on. We expect to have 4 or more lathes available for turning pens and instructors available to guide participants through the process of turning, sanding, and finishing your pen project. There will be no cost for the class. However, there will be a Materials Fee of \$5.00 on a per project kit basis. Each project kit will include a pen blank, a Slimeline pen kit, and sandpaper to fine tune your turning. We'll also have the required bushings available for each lathe as well as finishing supplies to share.

There will be a sign-up list for the lathes. Each partici-

pant will have an opportunity to turn a pen. Once turned, we'll have a pen press available to complete the assembly of your new pen. For those wishing to turn more than one pen you can sign-up for another rotation once everyone has had an opportunity to turn their first pen.

Instructors for this class will include **Charles Johnson, George Kabacinski, Lane Bradford, Reggie Keith, Steve LeGrue, Tom Enloe** and possibly others. There will be plenty of guidance and focused attention so don't be bashful, just be sure to keep the afternoon of Saturday, October 16th open and join the fun.

If you've turned pens before you may be able to pick up a few tips and pointers. And if you haven't turned a pen before this is your opportunity to make yourself a pen or even a gift for someone else.

Tools will be supplied for this class. However, if you have tools you'd like to bring along please feel free. Also, please bring your face shield / eye protection and a dust mask. If you do not have these items they will be supplied for the class.

This class will be open to all GCWA members, guests, as well as students and faculty at the University of Houston. This is great opportunity to get your family, friends, and neighbors involved with an easy turning project. There will be a sign up sheet at the September general meeting so we can get an idea of the number of pen kits we'll need to have available. If you are not able to make the September meeting and would like to participate please contact George Kabacinski at gkabacinski@gmail.com to sign up for the fun class.

The Houston Team Gets Accolades from a Pro

A post on World of WoodTurners by noted turner, artist, and teacher **Molly Winton** acknowledged **Luna Ford** and the others in the SWAT Hands On area for their efforts to introduce Molly's daughter **Jean** to turning. Molly notes "She was a bit shy at first, but the folks in the Houston club who ran the 'Learn to turn' booth soon charmed her into turning." It's hard to imagine anyone who could resist the charm of our team – **Greg Gonsalves, Don Fluker** and **Luna Ford**. These guys do a great job year after year at SWAT. They are constantly helping folks improve their skills, try out new tools, and introduce woodturning to folks who've not tried it in the past. Molly concluded her post with "Thank you all who made this event one Jean will never forget!" We couldn't have said it any better.

Have You Been Heard?

Just about everyone has an opinion. What's yours? Do you have an idea for a meeting location, a national turner, regional turner, meeting demo, local class, an addition to the library, or just about anything else related to the club? We want to hear from you. Contact any one of the folks below or any board member with your ideas on most any topic.

- National turners—**Steve LeGrue**
- Regional turners, general meeting demos, or the library—**Tom Enloe**
- Meeting locations—**Jim Keller**
- Local classes by local leaders—**George Kabacinski**
- Newsletter—**Andy Chen**

AUGUST SHOW & TELL

Best of Show

Paula Haymond

Carved Norfolk Island pine bowl



Judges: Lane Bradford & Delbert Pond

Photos: Paul Millo



Advanced Category

1st Place – Dave Barziza

Mesquite bowl



2nd Place – Dennis Ford

Beech bowl



3rd Place – Doug Davis



Walnut/
pecan stool

Intermediate Category

1st Place – Dennis April



Oak
bowl

2nd Place – Doug Grissom

Western red alder hollow form



3rd Place – Scott Njaa

Walnut bowl



Enhanced Category

1st Place – Paula Haymond



Pierced, dyed
maple plate

2nd Place – Jim Keller



Air-brushed
hackberry ring

3rd Place – Dennis Ford



Elm burl/
katalox box

Segmented Category

1st Place – Andy Chen

Corian hollow form



2nd Place – Clyde Collier



Allo wood
hollow form

3rd Place – Jim Keller



Acrylic/dyed
maple
sphere

Snapshots from the August Meeting



Pictures can be viewed at www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org

Photos: Ric Taylor

MENTOR PROGRAM

The following members have volunteered to serve as Club Mentors:

Jim Keller ----- (281) 467-2866

Larry Zarra ----- (281) 528-9183

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

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

Marty Kaminsky -- (281) 339-3297

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.

Scheduled Meetings & Events

Meeting dates and locations are subject to change.

September 18, 2010 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~ 9:00 AM - noon

Location: Mercer Arboretum

September 25, 2010 ~ Piercing Thin Turnings with Paula Haymond

Location: Cypress, TX

October 9, 2010 ~ Piercing Thin Turnings with Paula Haymond

Location: Cypress, TX

October 14, 2010 ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM

October 16, 2010 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~ 9:00 AM - noon

Location: University of Houston Keeland Center, Houston, TX

October 16, 2010 ~ Pen Turning 101 ~ 1:00 PM

Location: University of Houston Keeland Center, Houston, TX

November 1, 2010 ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM

November 13, 2010 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~ 9:00 AM - noon

Location: Foxfire Studios

December 6, 2010 ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM

December 18, 2010 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~ 9:00 AM - noon

Location: Bayland Community Center, Houston, TX

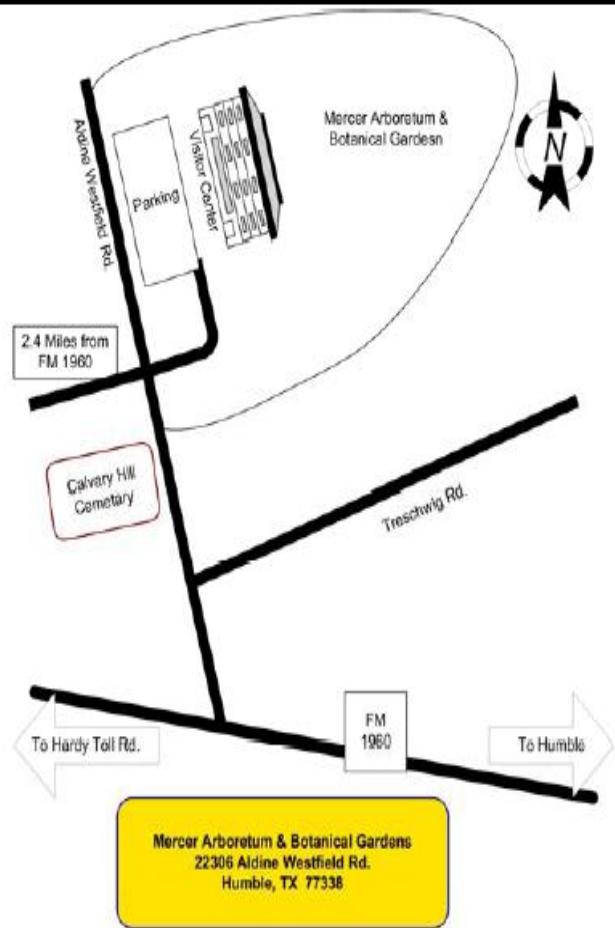
January 15, 2011 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~ 9:00 AM - Noon

Location: University of Houston Keeland Center

September Meeting

Mercer Arboretum & Botanical Garden

22306 Aldine-Westfield Rd, Humble, TX 77338



September Meeting Program

Paula Haymond will present
on surface decoration.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Steve LeGrue - President
(832) 496-0040 cell
slegrue@comcast.net

**Dave Barziza - Vice President/
Judging**
(713) 661-5941
davebarziza@yahoo.com

Ed Peine - Secretary
(713) 977-9922
epeine@comcast.net

Jim Keller—Treasurer
(281) 467-2866
jimkeller.foxfire@comcast.net

Lane Bradford - Board Member
(936) 447-9310
LaneBradford@eaton.com

Derek Powers - Board Member
(832) 444-2470
derekpowers@gmail.com

Thomas Irvén - Board Member
(713) 666-6881
trirven@sbcglobal.net

Ben Gray - Board Member
(281) 859-3132
BenG@rigidbuilding.com

Chris Roth - Board Member
(713) 444-5619
rothcf@earthlink.net

Dale Barrack-Website Creative Director
(281) 358-8529

John Van Domelen - Website Technical Director
john@texasturner.com

Andy Chen—Newsletter Editor
(979) 693-1211
andy_c_chen@yahoo.com

Email: gcwa@swbell.net
GCWA Websites:
www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org

Program Chair
Tom Enloe

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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 \$25 due on January 1. Dues may be mailed to Jim Keller, 105 S. 2nd Street, Richmond, TX 77406. Make your check payable to GCWA or Gulf Coast Woodturners Assn.

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>
Rockler: <http://www.rockler.com>
Craft Supply: <http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com>
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>
Southwest Association of Turners: <http://www.swaturners.org>
Trent Bosch: <http://www.trentbosch.com>
Central Texas Woodturners: <http://www.ctwa.org>
Arizona Silhouette: <http://www.arizonasilhouette.com>
The Wood Turning Center: <http://www.woodturningcenter.org>
Woodturning Online: <http://www.woodturningonline.com>



**Gulf Coast Woodturners
Association**