



GULF COAST WOODTURNER

January 2009



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year to everyone! 2009 is off to a quick start for GCWA with events popping up in January and February and continuing right into summer. First off is the 2009 Arbor Day Celebration at the Houston Arboretum & Nature Center on January 17th from 10 am to 4 pm. Several of our members will be there for the public demonstration so be sure to stop by (and bring some turned spin tops to pass out!). Find out more in the article by **Don Fluker** (page 2). Due to an unexpected opening for the Artist's Hall at Houston Center for Contemporary Craft curator **Gwynne Rukenbrod** invited GCWA to display works in a small juried show running from February 21st through April 17th. This is an exciting opportunity for our membership to be seen in the public eye and gain some well deserved publicity. **Tom Enloe** has an article (page 2) with all the details. I hope that everyone will show up with something for Gwynne to consider for the show – it's open to everyone. While this is a short term, quick exhibit **Bill Tilson** is continuing his efforts to coordinate a larger show at HCCC in the future so continue to keep that in mind and respond to Bill as he seeks out ideas and participation.

Moving into March we have another major event, in addition to our normal monthly meeting. The annual Empty Bowls event will be March 29th. This is an important event in the Houston craft community with crafters and artists of various interests providing bowls for the event. All monies raised support the Houston Food Bank so please look around the shop, house, studio, wherever and find a few (dozen?) bowls to contribute. Bring your bowls to the January and February meeting and pass them along to **Lane Bradford** (page 3) who is coordinating this event for GCWA. This is a great way for our members to help support the community through woodturning. Of course, our exhibit in the Artist's Hall at HCCC will continue through the month of March providing a great venue to take friends and family to view the works of GCWA members!

April starts off with the annual Wood Working Show. For the past few years this event has been held at the Reliant Center where we had to pay a hefty sum just to park each day. Well, this year the event will be out in Katy at the Leonard E. Merrell Center. We expect to have another great booth space with several lathes and plenty of opportunity to interact with the public, introduce folks to woodturning and hopefully add to our membership list a bit. April is also the month for the GCWA Annual Picnic.

GCWA Web Sites:

<http://www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org>

<http://jhanley.us>

This year the picnic is scheduled for George Bush Park. One of our members, **Ben Gray**, was actually in line at 5:00 AM (yes, that's AM as in morning) on January 2nd to get us a place at the table, well OK, make that pavilion for our Picnic. By 5:00 AM our first choice was already taken. However, George Bush Park has some nice facilities and it should work out well for the event. When you see Ben, be sure to tell him Thanks! Getting up to be in line at 5 AM is some serious dedication.

Of course April is also when we have our election for board members to serve the 2009 – 2010 term. Thinking about getting involved with the board? If so, let us know. We'll also be in the full swing of registration for the 2009 Spring Retreat. And that brings us to May with the biggest club event of the year – the Spring Retreat. May also marks the term end for the current board. Well, that sounds like a pretty busy winter/spring season and then you can add in some great general meetings and presentations into the mix. It's shaping up to be a great 2009 indeed!

The board has been working overtime to get the first formal GCWA budget adopted. The budget will guide us through calendar year 2009 and was passed without dissent at the January board meeting. A summary of the budget will be posted at each general meeting and will also be posted on the member-only area of our web site. Our budget for 2009 is a balanced plan and is neutral to the club's existing cash reserves. In addition to the calendar year budget we'll be posting a year to date summary at each general meeting. We may be tweaking to format some as we move forward based on input provided by you. Should you have any specific questions or ideas please contact one of the board members.

Our December meeting was held at the Bayland Park Community Center in Southwest Houston. There were a number of members who provided positive input on the

(Continued on Page 3)

January Meeting
University of Houston
Keeland Design Center
(Next to the Architecture Bldg.)
Houston, 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 2430 and Jet 1642 lathes available. 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.

For Sale - Genuine Ruth Niles bottle stoppers. These are the screw in type (#301). \$5.20/ea in quantity of 5 or more. These were purchased in bulk directly from Ruth Niles at SWAT. Also, Dust Kop commercial cyclone dust collection unit Model 11CB51, circa 1988, serial number 12621. Asking price is \$450.00. The unit is wired for 220 but can easily be converted to 110. It has a Baldor 1.5 hp motor. The unit does not currently have a bag/filter. However, a bag is available from Dust Kop for about \$75.00.

Contact George at
CL23313@gmail.com



Club News & Announcements

Lathes for 2009 Retreat

The 2009 Retreat will be here before we know it. I have agreed to round up the umpteen hundred lathes we need to have a very successful retreat. If you have a lathe that can be used during the retreat, May 15-17, 2009, we would truly appreciate it. We can use all sizes. Examples would be large (Oneway 2036), medium (Jet 1642) or midi/mini (Jet 1224/1014). With each lathe we need the following accessories - a chuck with standard jaws, spur drive, live center, and knockout bar. Each piece (not just the lathe) needs to be labeled with an identifying name or mark. The lathe and accessories need to be delivered to the Montgomery County Fairgrounds on Friday afternoon between 2:00 and 8:00 (preferred time) or before 7:30 AM on Saturday. To get on the list or to ask any questions, please contact me at the following e-mail address with the specs of your lathe: **Douglas Grissom**, douglas.grissom@att.net. Thanks to all of you in advance for your support to make our retreat a success.

Congratulations to John Van Domelen

John is doing a two-person exhibition "**WEATHERED**" with Ken Mazzu, Organized by Kinzelman Art Consulting. Opened Tuesday, January 6, 2009. (Closes April 5.) Week-day viewing 8:00am - 6:00pm. TRAVIS TOWER, 1301 Travis, Houston, Texas 77002

Congratulations to Andy Chen & Bill Tilson

They have been selected to do demonstrations at the AAW national symposium in Albuquerque, NM in June this year. Andy will demonstrate how to turn Corian and Bill, his famous flower petal vessels.

NEW ARTISTS HALL SHOW at HCCC

TEXAS TURNED

Gulf Coast Woodturners Curated by Gwynne Rukenbrod

By Tom Enloe/John Van Domelen

The February meeting will be unique in that we will not have our typical Show and Tell. Instead, we will have Gwynne Rukenbrod from HCCC select about twenty of our pieces for participation in a new Artists Hall Show at HCCC. As part of our meeting, Gwynne will offer comments on why she picked each of the twenty pieces. The show will run from Feb. 20th to April 19th at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft.

If interested, please select your best THREE items regardless of when they were done and whether they have been shown before. Since these items will be transported from the meeting to HCCC and then back to you, be sure to include suitable packaging for transit. Also please include a card with the basic information (i.e. your name, phone, type of wood, and dimensions).

Arbor Day - Spinning Tops

By Don Fluker

Jan 17, 09 is the day that the Houston Arboretum will be celebrating Houston's Arbor Day and once again they have invited GCWA to demonstrate for their visitors. As part of the demonstrating we turn spinning tops to give to the children that come by and see us. Every year we give out over 100 tops. Stop by after the meeting this week and turn a top or just say hello or bring some tops that you might spare. At last count we have about 150 and this weekend I know that I will get some more made. Any that we have left over will not go to waste. The Woodworking Tool Show will be here in April and we can always use them there.

Call for Bowls

By Lane Bradford

Join Local Craftspeople and Artists for Houston's Fifth Annual Empty Bowls Event March 29, 2009

It's that time again -- time to plan to set aside your time and talent early next year for making bowls to help feed those who are hungry in the Greater Houston area. The Houston Empty Bowls Committee, comprised of the craft and art community, the Houston Food Bank, Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, Lawndale Art Center, and Whole Foods Market invites ceramists, woodturners and woodworkers, hot and warm and cold glass artists, fiber artists, metal-smiths, painters and sculptors, artists of all kinds, to create and donate handmade bowls for Empty Bowls Houston 2009. All of us thank you for making bowls and thus, making Empty Bowls Houston a great success for four years running.

For the 2008 event, more than 100 artists contributed more than 1100 bowls and several hundred Houstonians purchased bowls. Whole Foods Market donated 5% of its sales from all area stores during its Community Giving Day. As a result, Empty Bowls Houston 2008 raised more than \$45,000 for the Houston Food Bank, who can turn that into an equivalent of more than \$360,000 worth of food for those in Houston, Harris County, and surrounding counties in need. Now it's time for a successful fifth.

Bring your donations to our **February** GCWA meeting. Any bowl or bowl-like object will be accepted, and bowls do not need to be functional (i.e. actually hold soup). For anyone wondering about size, think in terms of a bowl with a height from 2" to 4 in"; diameter from 4" to 6"; volume, 1 1/2 to 3 cups.

Any questions or comments, please fire away. Thank all of you for your participation.

(Continued from page 1 - President's Corner)

facility. **Jim Keller** is working to book the same facility for a meeting or two during 2009. Jim is working with other club members to advance book all the venues for 2009. He is continuing to seek out suitable venues across the entire Houston metro area. If you have any suggestions or can assist please contact Jim directly.

President's Challenge

We had a pretty full ornament tree at the December meeting. Thanks go out to **Bill Berry** for lending us the tree and more thanks go out to **Jonathan Bartz** for running the Ornament Exchange. My ticket wasn't the first one pulled this year, but I still came away with a great ornament – there were so many to pick from. It would seem that by now I would have come to expect some really creative ornaments and not be too surprised by what shows up – no way! The creativity and technical execution of our members continue to amaze and thrill me. Thanks to everyone who participated!

Have you started your doorknob yet? There's not a lot of time left. So be sure to check out the article in **American Woodturner** by **Tim Heil** titled *Doorknob Upgrade* that appeared on page 48 of the Fall 2008 edition (Vol. 23, No 3). If you haven't gotten started yet, check out the article and then head out to the workshop. For those who need an even greater challenge go for a perfectly matched set or a whole series for a specific room, or even the entire house! What about custom turned wood doorknobs for your workshop – now that would be way cool!

Unfortunately, we are going to pass on having a President's Challenge at the February meeting. We will not have our normal Show and Tell in February to allow time for the special selection process for the February/March show at Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. There is more detail on this in the article by **Tom Enloe** (page 2) so flip over to it for more information. I'm still planning to work on my flower pot project that I was going to do for the February challenge. I'll just bring it in for the regular Show and Tell in March.

The next Exchange Challenge will be in March. When it was first mentioned it seemed like a long way off (so did Christmas, back then). Now it is only a couple months off and certainly not too early to be thinking about your project. The item? A working time piece – this can be a wall clock, pocket watch, watch pendant, desk clock or whatever turns you on!

MEMBERSHIP

Three new members joined GCWA in December. Welcome to: Derek Hansen, Mike Drever and Richard Storm.

All in all, it's shaping up to be an outstanding year for GCWA. There should be plenty of opportunity to get involved to keep GCWA the best woodturning club around and one of the premiere clubs in AAW.

Keep turning and stay safe!

George

2009 Spring Retreat Meet the Team

By George Kabacinski

The New Year is underway and so are the preparations for the 2009 Spring Retreat. To some it may be a reasonable question to ask – why so early? Well, it really does take a lot of time and effort to arrange something of this scope. There are a number of leadership roles that have to be identified and then lots of volunteers to come together to make each part of the Retreat a success. Here's the leadership team for the 2009 event.

Programs – **Andy Chen** and **Tom Enloe**
Equipment – **Doug Grissom**
Registration – **Lane Bradford** (*tentative*)
Facilities Setup / Teardown – **Jonathan Bartz**
Raffle – **John Van Domelen**
Member Gallery / Public Area – **Delia and Ed Spicer**
Food – **Clyde Collier**
Event Chair – **George Kabacinski**

I sometimes think that one role is more important than another. In reality we couldn't do it without every one of these areas covered and covered well - they are all very important. Of course, the list above is the LEADERSHIP list, not the full list of folks we need to pull this off! As in

past years we will need many of our members to step forward and help out – which is what happens every year. A lot of folks get involved in one way or another to help out and 'make it happen'.

The only other woodturning events I've been to have been SWAT and AAW. Each has its own uniqueness and complexities. SWAT is about five times the size of our Retreat in terms of registrations. And AAW is maybe three times the size of SWAT. There are a lot of volunteer hours that go into making those events successful. However, what makes our Retreat even more challenging is the fact that it's hands-on activity. For example, SWAT and AAW need a lathe for each room. We need 7 for each station! SWAT and AAW are open seating for the sessions – whoever shows up gets a seat, or in some cases, a wall to stand up against when all the seats are taken. Registration for the Retreat requires that we limit the class sizes so that each student has a lathe to work on and we maintain a very low student – instructor balance. My point is that while our Retreat is smaller than SWAT and AAW it still requires a significant amount of planning and people to pull it off. So, when you hear the call for help, please consider jumping in and doing it early so that everything comes together with as little stress as possible. Why wait - choose your area of involvement and contact the leader listed above to get involved now!

SWAT

Editor

Didn't we just have the symposium a couple of months ago? That may be true but an event like this takes a long time and a lot of dedicated volunteers to develop. Because the demonstrators involve big-name turners who usually have a very busy schedule, we have to nail them down early. Well, our hard-working program committee has rounded up a slate of distinguished national/international turners to be the Lead Demonstrators for this year's symposium. They are Stu Batty, Jimmy Clews, Jamie Donaldson, Mike Mahoney, Michael Mocho, and Stephen Hatcher. You already know a couple of these guys because they have taught at our Club.

The dates for the symposium are October 16 - 18. We are going back to Wichita Falls this year. I know it is hard on our members because of the distance but it is much cheaper than Waco. The program committee has worked hard to find a suitable venue, one of them being San Marcos, which has a very nice new convention center but it costs a lot to rent the space, and the headquarters hotel is also expensive and they want us to guarantee a large number of rooms even at that high rate. So, you either pay a lot for the convenience of being close or you pay a little more for gas (and hopefully the gas price will stay more or less stable for the foreseeable future). Frankly, I know many people have carpooled to Wichita Falls. Not only did they save the gas money and wear and tear on many cars but more important they really enjoyed the fellowship.

January Demonstration

By Bill Tilson

With today's environmental issues I wanted to develop a method where I could capture the maximum volume in a vessel using the minimal amount of wood. The process has evolved into my colorful flower petal vessels and art forms. I will show the basic steps in creating a flower petal vessel/bowl, which requires a variety of skills: flat woodworking, veneering, bending, ironing, airbrushing, turning, carving, and finishing.

This demo is the same one that I'll be doing at the 2009 AAW Symposium. Because of the demo's length, George and Tom asked me to split the demo and present at two of our meetings. The January session will cover the making of the flower vessel to the point of it being just about ready to be added to a base or stem. The March session will cover the making of a bowl base or vessel stem (audience's choice) that represents the sepal of a flower.

A handout for my demo will be posted on the web.

DECEMBER SHOW & TELL

Advanced Category

<p>1st Place</p>  <p>Larry Zarra Pecan Bowl</p>	<p>2nd Place</p>  <p>Doug Davis Bradford pear bowl</p>	<p>3rd Place</p>  <p>Larry Zarra Ash goblet</p>	<p>Honorable Mention</p>  <p>Doug Davis Hard maple bowl</p>
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Intermediate Category

<p>1st Place</p>  <p>Paula Haymond Douglas fur bowl</p>	<p>2nd Place</p>  <p>John King Cedar elm bowl</p>	<p>3rd Place</p>  <p>John King Pecan bowl</p>	<p>Honorable Mention</p>  <p>Linda Bohl Spalted hackberry bowl</p>
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Beginner Category

<p>1st Place</p>  <p>Mesquite clock</p>	<p>2nd Place</p>  <p>Antelope pen</p>	<p>3rd Place</p>  <p>Steven Driver Pecan bowl</p>	<p>Honorable Mention</p>  <p>Steven Driver Dyed box elder burl pens</p>	<p>Best of Show</p>  <p>John Van Domelen "Cross Section"</p>
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Enhanced Category

<p>1st Place</p>  <p>Gary Rock Aspen & cocobolo hollow form</p>	<p>2nd Place</p>  <p>Bill Tilson Mesquite close form</p>	<p>3rd Place</p>  <p>John Van Domelen Oak bowl</p>	<p>Honorable Mention</p>  <p>Jeremy Grubb Oak and walnut chair with turned legs</p>
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Segmented Category

<p>1st Place</p>  <p>Andy Chen Colobolo, mesquite, birdseye maple, walnut, Macarsa ebony lidded vessel</p>	<p>2nd Place</p>  <p>Clyde Collier Maple & mahogany goblet</p>	<p>3rd Place</p>  <p>Eddie James Tigre caspi hollow form</p>	<p>Honorable Mention</p>  <p>Larry Zarra Walnut bowl</p>
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Christmas Ornament Exchange

<p>1st Place</p> 	<p>2nd Place</p> 	<p>3rd Place</p> 	<p>Honorable Mention</p> 
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Judges: **Lane Bradford & Greg Gonsalves**

Pictures of these turnings can be viewed at www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org and jhanley.us

Snapshots from the December Meeting at Bayland Park



Jim Keller discusses different bowl possibilities from one log



Best of show winner, John Van Domelen



Show & Tell Judges: Lane Bradford and Greg Gonsalves



Photography by Dale Barrak

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.

January 17, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~

Location: University of Houston Main Campus ~ Keeland Design Center

President's Challenge: Custom Turned Doorknob

February 9, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~ Clyde Collier's home

February 16, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~

Location: Foxfire Studios ~ 105 South 5th Street, Richmond, TX ([map](#))

Demo: Multi-axis Turning

March 9, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~ Dave Barziza's home

March 21, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~

Location: Memorial Lutheran Schools ~ 5800 Westheimer, Houston, TX

President's Exchange Challenge: A working timepiece--wall clock, pocket watch, watch pendant, desk clock, other timepiece.

April 6, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~ Dale Barrack's home

April 18, 2009 ~ GCWA Picnic ~ 9:00AM - Noon

Location: George Bush Park

May 4, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~ Location TBD ~

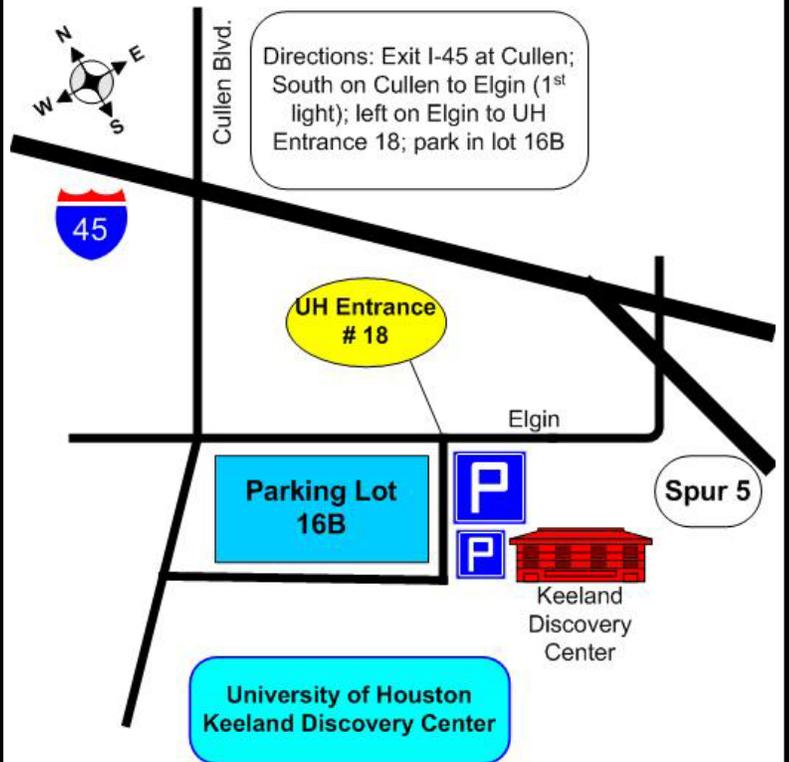
May 16-17, 2009 ~ GCWA Spring Retreat ~ 8:00AM - 4:00PM

Location: Montgomery County Fairgrounds ([map](#))
(Additional information to follow)

June 8, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~ George Kabacinski's shop

July 6, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~ Jim Keller's studio

January Meeting University of Houston Keeland Design Center (Next to the Architecture Bldg.)



January Meeting Program

Bill Tilson will demonstrate how to make his famous flower petal vessels (part 1).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Chair/Librarian/SWAT Representative
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GCWA Websites:
www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org
<http://jhanley.us>

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 Mack DeBose, 11535 Clover Lane Ct, Houston, TX, 77066-3816. 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>
The Cutting Edge: <http://www.cuttingedgetools.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