



GULF COAST WOODTURNER

March 2009



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It might seem like March is a quiet month for the club. Looks can be deceiving. There're a number of club events and activities either on-going or coming up and the behind-the-scenes work is really heating up.

Have you been out to the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft to see the exhibit Texas Turned: Gulf Coast Woodturners? This exhibit features 40 selected works of our members. The exhibit is a great way to convey the quality and artistic talents of club members and bring the public into the world of wood art and turned craft items. It runs through April 17th so be sure to take a trip down to HCCC and check it out. John Van Domelen is working on an Exhibit Catalogue as well. He expects to have a sample at the March meeting. So be sure to look for John and pre-order your copy.

Also at HCCC is Empty Bowls Houston on Saturday, March 21st. **Lane Bradford** has been collecting bowls for the event over the past several months and he has a decent number from our club. Of course, if you still want to donate, please contact Lane directly prior to the event. Lane will represent the club with a demo at the event as well and there is plenty of opportunity for others to get in on the action and join Lane for the demo (details on page 4). All proceeds from this event go to supporting the Houston Food Bank. For more information on the event please visit www.EmptyBowlsHouston.org

The annual picnic will also be our April meeting and the time we cast our vote for the new board members. This year the picnic will be held at a new location – George Bush Park. The park is located at 16756 Westheimer Parkway Houston 77082. Located near the intersection of State Highway 6 and Westheimer, the park covers some 7800 acres including over 11 miles of trails. We have been assigned Pavilion # 3 which has a capacity for 264 people with plenty of tables, several electrical outlets and is close to the restrooms and playground. As usual GCWA will provide the Bar-B-Q with our members bringing in the rest of the goodies. Be on the lookout for **Tom Enloe's** article in the April newsletter on what to plan for the event and start going through your recipes to come up with that special dish to share.

We'll need something to talk about at the picnic. So just for that purpose we've arranged for The Woodworking Show to be in town the weekend of April 3, 4, and 5 so

GCWA Web Sites:
<http://www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org>
<http://jhanley.us>

you can pick up some of the latest and greatest tools to bring to the picnic and show off, or just tell folks about. **Lane Bradford** has provided some additional information on page 5. So check out all the details. Of course, GCWA will have a substantial presence at the event as we have for many years. This is thanks to the efforts of **Greg Gonsalves** and his team of helpers to get everything scheduled, setup and operational. Want to get involved? Give Greg a call or see him at the March meeting to let him know of your interests. Once again, Craft Supplies USA will have a hands-on turning area and GCWA members are invited to sign up for a slot to help introduce show goers to woodturning. Okay, so we didn't really have anything to do with scheduling the show, but it did make for a nice transition, right?

So we've covered the HCCC exhibit, Empty Bowls, the picnic, and The Woodworking Show. So what else is there? Well, we do have the Spring Retreat coming up in May. This year **Doug Grissom** is rounding up all the required equipment and **Andy Chen/Tom Enloe** are working out the details of the program. We reviewed the program at the board meeting Monday evening. This year will be another stellar event with something for everyone at every level. We'll be keeping a lid on the number of demonstration/discussion sessions and concentrate on hands-on which makes the Retreat different from most of the symposiums offered by other groups.

Once again this year we will feature the Turning Fundamentals Track for new turners or those who would like a focused set of developmental classes. Twelve lucky turners-to-be will be able to benefit from this structured weekend long program that starts with no pre-requisite for turning experience and will have each participant producing tangible results built on a solid foundation. If you have someone you would like to introduce to woodturning this is the best value and clearly a quality educational

Continued on page 2

March Meeting
March 21, 2009
Memorial Lutheran Schools
5800 Westheimer
Houston, TX

Continued from page 1

offering. In addition to the Turning Fundamentals Track we will have 32 hands-on rotations, multiple sharpening classes and a few demos to keep everyone busy. We're also planning for an Open Turning area for those who are not in one of the classes or demos and want to get in some practice, show off your skills, or get some help from one of the great many experienced turners in the club.

Even though costs are rising all around us and it will cost more to put on this year's event we are **not** increasing the fee. Advanced registration will continue at the previous rate of only \$45. Registration at the door will be \$55. Registration will be open at the picnic in April.

For those who are not aware, GCWA produces the Spring Retreat using entirely volunteer staffing. The only ones paid for their efforts are the catering companies providing lunch on Saturday and Sunday. This event requires a huge commitment from a large number of people to be successful. This includes the folks who work hard to plan, organize and execute the event as well as all those who dedicate untold hours to prepare to lead classes, as well as those who show up on Friday to setup the facility and the great crew who clean up afterwards. To put on something of this magnitude with an all-volunteer staff is nothing short of amazing. And it turns out so well every year.

Of course we can have all the volunteers and instructors in the world along with a great facility, but without the equipment we wouldn't have much of an event, would we? Doug informed the board that as of Monday he had 51 lathes committed for the event. That sounds pretty good, right? It is indeed. However, to pull this off we need at least 74 lathes!!! Based on the information at hand we have 30 people supporting the event by pledging the use of their lathes. To that Doug has secured commitments from retail stores and HCCC which accounts for 18 of the lathes. The bottom line – we need more club members to support the event by pledging the use of your lathe, grinder, and related equipment.

At the retreat we all share and we all benefit, but we can't expect just a few to provide all the equipment. If you are planning to attend **please** consider loaning your lathe for the event. It's not a requirement to bring a lathe to attend,

but it's the right thing to do if you can and we realize that not everyone can handle this request. We have had very few issues with damage or lost equipment and the club makes things right should something like that occur. We all need to pitch in to make sure we can have this great hands-on learning opportunity. So go ahead and flood Doug's e-mail and keep him answering the phone calls to get us to the level of equipment we need for the event.

May not only marks the month for the Retreat it also brings the current board term to an end. There is a nominating committee in place staffed by **Don Fluker, Greg Gonsalves, and Tom Enloe**. With four board members retiring from the board this year there is ample opportunity to get involved. The nominating committee is challenged to identify candidates for President, Vice President and two Board Member positions. They certainly have their work cut out for them and they need your help. Being part of the GCWA board is both a special privilege and a significant responsibility. It does involve a good deal of work and commitment but the rewards are well worth the investment of time and effort. When Don, Greg or Tom call you up or tap you on the shoulder, listen to what they have to say and give the opportunity some serious consideration. Of course, if you want to throw your hat in the ring without waiting to be sought out just give one of them a call or e-mail.

Well, we covered a lot of ground in this article and there is much more detail on the pages that follow. Before closing I would like to take time out to wish Luna Ford and Bill Tilson continued success in their recovery from recent hospitalizations. We look forward to having both of them back at their lathes and to enjoy their company at upcoming meetings and events.

Keep turning, stay safe, and have fun!

George

March Meeting Program

By Jim Keller

For March GCWA has another new meeting location, we will be the guests of the Cub Scouts and Memorial Lutheran Church and School, 5800 Westheimer at the corner of Bering. The meeting will be held in the Gymnasium. The entrance to the Gym is off Bering. Chairs will be provided.

During the social hour we will work with the Cub Scouts turning tops for their wood working project. Also during the social hour a Critique Session will be held for those interested in participating. The critique panel will be Andy Chen, Jerry Bennett and Jim Keller. If you have a turning you would like to be critiqued please bring it to the designated location.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

LATHE WANTED — Looking for a lathe for a beginner. Would prefer a mini.
Don Smith: 281-489-9131

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. Contact George at CL23313@gmail.com

For sale: (1) Cabinet Saw - \$700.00, Delta, 10" with 30" extension table Unifence, 2 hp, 220 v single phase motor. Good condition, single owner. (2) Thickness Planer - \$600.00, Delta, DC 380, 15" wide, 5" thick. 3 hp, single 220 v single phase motor. Good condition, single owner. (3) Six-inch Jointer - \$250.00, Rockwell, 1 hp, 110 v motor. Decent condition. Reconditioned by current owner. Works very well. Contact Brian Laing at 281-580-5381 (H), brian.laing@sbcglobal.net

Club News & Announcements

Time to Renew!

Just a reminder – GCWA membership is an annual thing! All memberships expire at the end of December and renewals are due by January 1st. That date has past and yet we have a good number of folks who have not taken care of their renewals. The renewal rate for 2009 is \$25. Please remember to bring a check to the March meeting or send in along via snail mail. Delinquent members will lose their member privileges.

Information Update

Please be sure the club has your correct e-mail address. It is the most cost-effective and expedient method of providing member communications. We work hard to keep the cost of mailing down by using e-mail and the Web site. Therefore it is important to have your correct e-mail address. If your e-mail address has changed or you are not receiving an e-mail notice for the newsletter please contact **Mack DeBose** to update your information.

Wood Sighting

Wayne Stanfield wanted to make the club aware of a VERY LARGE sycamore tree located in the front parking lot of his church in Spring, TX will be removed.

They are currently taking bids. It is so large they will need to get a crane in to aid in the removal. It should be taken down within the next 2 weeks. The church administrator has told Wayne she will call him a couple of days before and let him know when. If we want any of the wood from the tree we would need to get a group together and have them there the day the tree comes down. They plan to do the removal and clean up all in one day. Anyone that is interested needs to contact Wayne via cell, or email, both are listed below.

Location:
Grace Christian Fellowship
405 Rayford Road
Spring, Texas 77386
(713) 907-4409 (M), wayne.stanfield@rrd.com

Club Gossip

By Tom Enloe

Just in case you didn't know:

- Check the photo on page eight of the current AAW magazine. There is a photo of two kids winning a lathe in the youth area. In the background there is a familiar face wearing a GCWA cap. Check it out!
- **Luna Ford** has been laid up in Clear Lake Rehab Hospital with a broken hip but is now in therapy and expects to be going home in about three weeks. His cell number is: 713-249-9816. Give him a call.
- **Bill Tilson** has completed the cancer treatment at MD Anderson and is now at home. He won't be able to do the March demo but is expecting to complete his demo at a meeting soon. His cell number is (713) 834-8691. Give him a call. Call me at (832) 229-4404 if you hear something about a member that could be shared.

No Octuplets

By Lane Bradford

Yes, you read that correctly! There were no Octuplets from GCWA for the Empty Bowl event this year.

The GCWA and I wish to extend our heart-felt Thank YOU! to the following people who gave generously to the Empty Bowl.

Bill Lewis – 9 round “things” made of wood
TJH – 7 round “things” made of wood
Bill Pottorf – 7 round “things” made of wood
Larry Zarra – 6 round “things” made of wood
Gene Bradley – 6 round “things” made of wood
Unknown Turners – 4 round “things” made of wood or 1 each from 4 Unknown Turners!
Don Fluker – 3 round “things” made of wood
Brazos Bowls – 3 round “things” made of wood
Fog Tanner -1 round “things” made of wood

The total was 46 round “things” made of wood this year, slightly down from previous years but still not a bad showing. I bet we still beat those “mud slinging” potters!

If you want to come by the HCCC after the regular meeting this month you are certainly most welcome. The Empty Bowl event will officially run from 11 AM till 4 PM. If you want to purchase a wooden bowl from one of our members listed above or one fresh off the lathe you need to be there early. Wood moves fast at this event, “dirt” from potters hangs around forever.

If you want to demonstrate at this event or you have already contacted Lane Bradford and volunteered to demonstrate, let me remind you that all Demonstrators are covered by AAW liability insurance ONLY if they are current members of the AAW. If you are not a current AAW member, the GCWA Board does not want you to risk your own liability insurance by turning at this event. Things can happen and everyone knows a lawyer. It simply is not worth the risk to you. Thanks again for your support of the Empty Bowl Event to help the Houston Food Bank.

Lane Bradford
(H) 936-447-9310
(C) 713-823-2404

President's Challenge

There was no President's Challenge at the February meeting due to the special activities with selection of pieces for the New Artists' Hall exhibit at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. Over 40 items were selected for the exhibit!

The March challenge will be another exchange event – the time piece exchange. The turned item should be something that actually keeps time - a working time piece. This can be a wall clock, pocket watch, watch pendant, desk clock or whatever you can dream up. With the creative minds of our members we can look forward to another great club exchange.

It seems to have become a bit of a tradition to have Weird Turnings at the annual picnic. There are no rules, no limits, just plane fun. So let's plan to build on that theme and come up with something way out there for April.

May is our annual retreat and no President's Challenge although there will certainly be plenty to see and do. We will, of course, have a member gallery. There is no judging at this event either so bring along the work you'd like to display for others to see, whether its been in a previous show and tell or not.

To help get things going for the next President, I'll publish the June challenge next month. It will be time again for an exchange event since we've been doing one each quarter. Have an idea? Send it along and we'll give it some thought.

MEMBERSHIP

Four new members joined GCWA in February. Welcome to: Bo Bothe, Anthony Steele, Bob Owens, Edward Bartimmo.

DVD REVIEW

ADVANCED DESIGN LAMINATIONS

By BILL KLOEPPING
(GCWA Library #455)

By Doug Grissom

Do you want to make your pens look different? Have a design in mind for that special pen? Bill Kloepping shows

you how to layout the design, cut and glue it up using a scroll saw or a band saw. I do pens that are mainly turned to show off the wood but this DVD shows me how to expand the pen line-up. In addition, many of the design techniques can be transferred to other turned items such as pen holders, vases, small bowls and platters. This could be a way to ease into segmenting without having to worry about angles. I highly recommend this DVD.

Lathes for Spring Retreat

By Doug Grissom

The 2009 Spring Retreat will be here before we know it. The dates are 15, 16 and 17 May. I saw a list of the classes and wish I could take every one. The situation is that without some more lathes made available for the retreat, there will not be enough class space for everyone to take at least one. What we need is about 25 more lathes, of which at least 3 or 4 need to be large format lathes (Oneway, Powermatic, etc). We also need about 8 to 10 more sharpening systems, several lights and stands for mini lathes. I also need some volunteers who can pick up lathes from turners who have loaned their lathes but for whatever the reason can not deliver them to Conroe. However you can help, send the information (make, model, stand, accessories for a lathe or what area of the Greater Houston for pick-up and delivery) to me at douglas.grissom@att.net or call at 281-859-9134. Thanks.

Happy Turning.

March Demonstration

By Tom Enloe

You may remember that Bill Tilson did the first half of his "flower" demo at the January meeting and was scheduled to do the second half at the March meeting. Due to some medical problems (see Club Gossip), Bill needs to postpone that demo for a couple of months. For the coming year, we had planned to bring in "out of town talent" for several monthly demonstrations - so this is a chance to move up that schedule. The March demo will be given by Craig Timmerman from the Austin club. Craig has given demos at several SWAT meetings as well as the national AAW meeting in 2005. Craig's website is <http://armadillowoodworks.com/> and he describes his "Flying Bowls" demo project as:



Turning non-round shapes is one of my favorites. All of the bowls here start as some kind of square or rectangular shape. (I don't turn a round

bowl and then cut it later to make the square shapes.) I try to then keep some part of that starting shape in the finished piece. This results in bowls that have "wings" and therefore become part of my Flying Bowl Gallery.

The Houston Wood Working Show

By Lane Bradford

They're BACK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

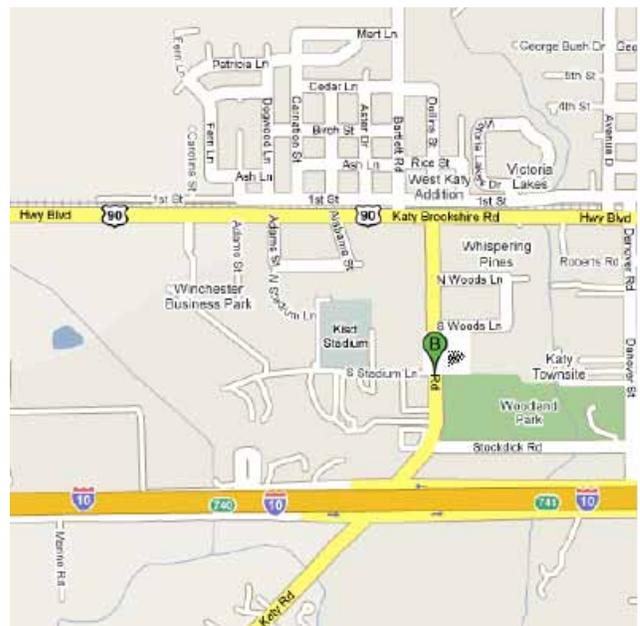
Just in time to keep that money from burning a hole in your pocket!!

You know you just got to have that new tool to help you make that new project you have in mind. Well, the Wood Working Show, a.k.a. THE Tool Show, is back in Houston. April 3rd, 4th & 5th. Yea!!!

One thing we all need to know this time however. It's not going to be at Reliant Park this year. They moved it to the Leonard E. Merrell Center, 6301 South Stadium Lane, Katy 77494, map attached, and parking is FREE this year. The show is also slightly smaller due to the economy.

The GCWA will have our usual demo area again this year and Greg Gonsalves is organizing our booth, so please contact him and sign-up for some demo time. The GCWA Board has requested that I remind you that all Demonstrators are covered by AAW Liability insurance ONLY if they are current members of the AAW. If you are not a current AAW member, the GCWA Board does not want you to risk

your own liability insurance by turning at this event. Things can happen and everyone knows a lawyer. It simply is not worth the risk to you. I am sure you all know what a huge draw for new members this show and our presence in it is for GCWA, so the more demonstrators we have in our booth the better the impression we make. Besides free parking, demonstrators get in the show for free also! See, there we have already saved you enough money you can afford that new tool.



Snapshots from the February Meeting at Foxfire Studios



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.

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

June 20, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~

Location: Bayland Community Center

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

July 18, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~

Location: 1st Presbyterian Church - tentative

August 15, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~

Location: 1st Presbyterian Church - tentative

September 19, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting

Location: Mercer Arboretum

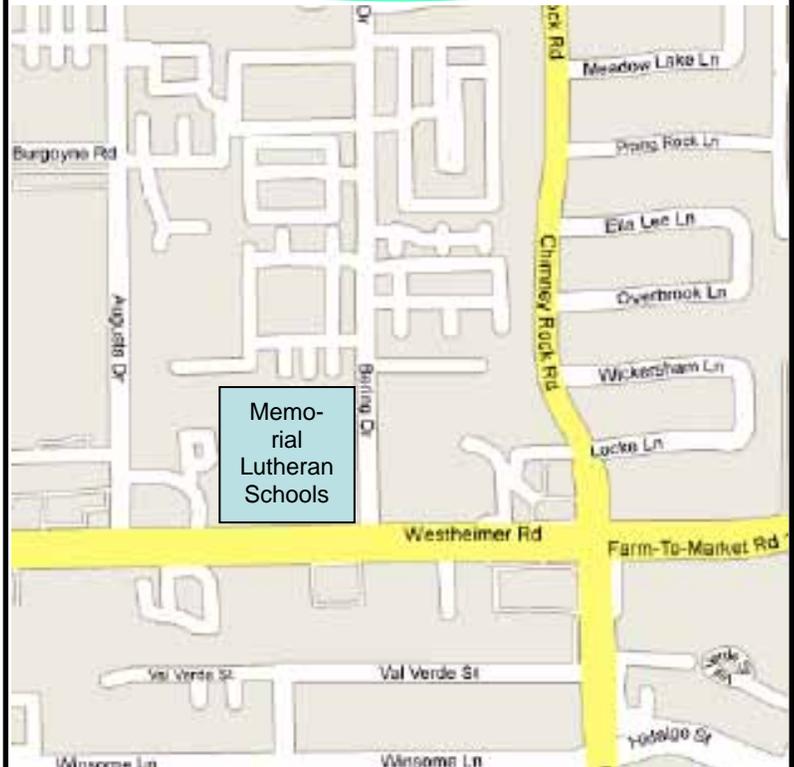
October 17, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~ TBA

November 21, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~ TBA

December 19, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~

Location: Bayland Community Center

March Meeting Memorial Lutheran Schools 5800 Westheimer Houston, TX



The meeting will be held in the gymnasium with entrance on Bering.

March Meeting Program

**Flying Bowls by
Craig Timmerman**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

George Kabacinski - President
(832) 349-3006
gkabacinski@gmail.com

Mack DeBose - Treasurer
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Lmdebose@swbell.net

John Van Domelen - Secretary/Website
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Tom Enloe - Past President/Program
Chair/Librarian/SWAT Representative
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Dave Barziza - Board Member/Judging
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Steve Legrue - Board Member
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Email: gcwa@swbell.net
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