



# GULF COAST WOODTURNER

June 2009



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Well, it's done. You've got me as your new President. I am nervous as that long tailed cat in a room full of rockers. I think I know some things I'd like to see accomplished in the next 12 months, and I will need all of your input and help to make the club go.

I used to be one of you, one of the 95% in a club that make the other 5% do it all. Now I'm one of the 5%. Join me. We need volunteers in all sorts of ways, from judging Show & Tell to contributing to this Newsletter. We are fortunate to retain the considerable skills of **Andy Chen** as our newsletter editor. Not only can Andy take a bunch of little pieces and make a bowl, he can also make a newsletter from a rag-tag bunch of pictures and articles. Behind the scenes, a cadre of amazing people have been writing, editing, assembling, bulk e-mailing, printing, folding, stamping and mailing these newsletters every month. Just a little guilt-tripping here, but if you are one of the 20 who insists on a hard copy, even when you also receive an e-copy, why don't you help with stamping and folding? You will get yours first.

The retreat was a huge success. Kudos to those who contributed their expertise and to those who benefited from it. We had 16 new turners in the Fundamentals area who picked up a sharp tool, many for the first time, and made shavings. It took the patience of Job from the mentors, I'm sure, but the payoff was starting a new turner on their journey. Thanks, **Greg Gonsalves** and **Don Fluker** for running that area. We had 108 participants and most helped in some way or other. The raffle was a big success, with \$2166 in raffle ticket sales, and over \$1000 collected from the silent auction. If you incurred any damage to your equipment during the retreat, or if you lost anything, get with **George Kabacinski**, **Jim Keller** or me to get you taken care of. We owe a debt of gratitude to the vendors who supported us thru donations or special pricing. These include:

Donations: Craft Supplies, Thompson Tools, Big Monk Lumber Co., and HUT Products.

Price Reductions: The Cutting Edge, Packard Woodworking, Craft Supplies, The Sanding Glove, and George Kabacinski.

We also had members and former demonstrators donate tools, tool handles, and art. A big shout out to **Reggie Keith**, **George Kabacinski**, **Clyde Collier**, **Wayne Stanfield**, **Binh Pho**, **Jimmy Clewes**, **Bill Tilson**, **Doug Grissom**, and **Fog Tanner** for their donations. In addition, **Clyde** made a segmented vessel to give to our

trusty electrician up at Montgomery County Fairgrounds. Thanks, Clyde. Finally, Woodcraft, Rockler, and Houston Center for Contemporary Craft loaned us mini lathes for our use over the weekend. Many thanks to them. If I forgot to mention you, I apologize in advance.

The Retreat we do is a unique educational forum. In addition to the new turners, we had gallery-level turners showing their chops to anyone who would listen, and they in turn were learning from the other talented demonstrators. Again, it's a journey.

The AAW Symposium is in Albuquerque, NM this upcoming June 26-28. Many of our club members (unfortunately, not me) will be there. If you go, take lots of pictures, and perhaps write a short report for the next newsletter. Go to the member's forum on our website, (see above), where others are setting up travel and other symposium-related activities. These forums are moderated by our Club Secretary, **John Van Domelen**. This is just another way to use our outstanding website, mastered by **Dale Barrack**.

We are going to move the Show & Tell judging at the monthly meeting one half hour earlier, to 9:30. That means that if your piece is late, it might not be officially judged that month. Of course, the general membership will critique it amongst themselves, but you will be free to bring it back the following month to be judged and included in the newsletter and on the website. We are doing this because two of our loyal members who run the Show & Tell never get to see any of the meetings or demos. **Dave Barziza**, our new Vice President, runs the Show & Tell, and it is a big responsibility. He may give you a call prior to a meeting asking you to be a judge. Please help him out. Then the winning pieces are carried, preferably by you, to a back corner, where **Paul Millo** makes coffee table book-quality pictures of your work for our website (Did you know we have a gallery of mem-

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**June Meeting**  
**June 20, 2009**  
**Bayland Community Center**  
**6400 Bissonnet**  
**Houston, TX 77074**

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

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ber's work on our website?). We are going to try and move things along so Dave and Paul can see some of the demos and get out before 1 pm.

FYI, I understand that Rockler is offering GCWA members a 10% discount on many items if you tell them you are club member at the time of purchase. When 20 of us have gone in, they will give the club a gift certificate for our raffle. Please note that the Board will never give personal information to anyone. In this case, they did not even ask for names. I understand that Woodcraft will extend this same courtesy if you tell them you are a GCWA member. Yet another benefit of membership. Please support the local vendors who support our club.

See you Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at Bayland Community Center. Our own **Bill Tilson** is scheduled to do the second half of his flower demo. As you know, Bill has not been well, and he has been very tired lately. Our thoughts are surely with him and Denise. In case we need to reschedule Bill, we will have a demonstration of eccentric turning by **Thomas Irvén**. Tom is one of the professional turners in our club, and a past president of GCWA. You may have seen some of his work at The Houston Center for Contemporary Craft.

*Steve LeGrue*

6/9/09

## MEMBERSHIP

Five new members joined GCWA in May. Welcome to: Mike McMonagle, Dan Weaver, David Gernand, Gene Bruner and Servando Peña

## Member Photographs

By Dale Barrack



New members who have recently joined the club can have their photographs taken at the June meeting. The photographs are used in member Gold Galleries. Also, members who have Gold Galleries, but no picture of themselves included in the gallery, can have their picture taken also. See Dale Barrack at the meeting.

## SWAT 2009 Update

By Steve LeGrue

Don't forget that the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Symposium for the Southwest Association of Turners is scheduled for October 16-18 in Wichita Falls. Those of you who have gone to SWAT in recent years know that the facility in Wichita Falls is superb for our type of gathering. It is a bit far from Houston, so I encourage you to seek out a friend to share the expense and long hours of the drive up there.

Note that SWAT is again scheduled for the same weekend that GCWA usually meets. To help you attend both turning activities the October GCWA monthly meeting has been moved up one week to October 10<sup>th</sup>.

There are 6 lead demonstrators from around the world this year, including Stuart Batty, Mike Mahoney, Jimmy Clewes, Jamie Donaldson, Michael Mocho and Stephen Hatcher. They have also scheduled 14 regional demonstrators from across Texas and the Southwest, including three of our very own, Bill Berry, Brian Laing and Janice Levi.

Registration can be conveniently accomplished on-line at [www.swaturners.org](http://www.swaturners.org). The registration form can be downloaded from the website for those who would prefer to register by mail. Individual registration for turners is \$125, and spouses can register for \$60. These fees include access to the demos, lunch all three days, and a handbook that will be provided by the demonstrators. Banquet tickets are available for an additional fee.

In addition, the trade show will provide you with the chance to see, touch, and in some cases try out the newest and best that the wood-turning world has to offer. SWAT is a tremendous value, and I encourage you to support this invaluable resource.

## Retreat Equipment

By Doug Grissom

I want to take this opportunity to thank the 50 plus members who allowed their 60 plus lathes to be used for the annual retreat. Without this level of support from the membership, the retreat would not be possible. We had a total of 75 plus lathes. The other lathes were loaned to us from Woodcraft (both north and south stores), Rockler and HCCC. Thanks again for all your support.

## Treasurer's Report

By Jim Keller

On behalf of the Club I would like to thank Mack DeBose for his excellent work as Club Treasurer for the past year. As we move forward we will be preparing a Financial Statement for the Club.

To this end we need to complete an inventory of equipment and other miscellaneous items owned by the Club. IF you have any items owned by the Club or know where any items are located, turning equipment, coolers, folding tables, etc. Please let me know, [jimkeller.foxfire@comcast.net](mailto:jimkeller.foxfire@comcast.net) or 281-467-2866. Thank you for your assistance.

## 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. Contact George at [CL23313@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:brian.laing@sbcglobal.net)

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](mailto: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 (C), [douglas.grissom@att.net](mailto:douglas.grissom@att.net)

For sale: Jet Mini-lathe Model1014, excellent condition, no rust or stains. Includes all standard accessories and manuals. Current price at Woodcraft is \$ 379.99 + sales tax and at Craft Supply 374.99 + \$15 shipping. Asking \$300 and will deliver locally. Contact Clyde at 281-487-2143, or [clutha2143@sbcglobal.net](mailto:clutha2143@sbcglobal.net).

## President's Challenge

By George Kabacinski

To help transition to Steve LeGrue's term as President I had previously announced that June will be another combination of President's Challenge and Exchange. The turning of choice is a vase. In an effort to get as many people as possible to participate there are no limits. It's up to you and can be anything from a simple weed pot all the way to a high-end art piece. Just remember June will be an Exchange. So turn a vase, enter it into the Exchange and go home with a nice turning from a fellow GCWA member. Several of our members have international recognition and many others are on the same path. Having an opportunity to acquire a turning from someone in the club is great whether or not they have a national following or beyond – and who knows how many more of our members will get to that point in the future. But alas, you don't have a chance to build your collection unless you enter with a turning or two, or three ....

## GCWA Forum

By Steve LeGrue

Some of you may still be unaware that our club has an excellent website ([www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org](http://www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org)) administered by our long-time member, **Dale Barrack**. In addition to accessing monthly newsletters and other club information such as our club calendar, it includes a members-only forum where you can list tools for sale, ask questions pertaining to woodturning, find a mentor, investigate our library collection, let folks know where a tree is down, and more. For some reason this resource is not being fully utilized by our membership. Dale and I encourage you to explore the forum.

## Luna Ford Award

By Steve LeGrue

This year at the retreat the GCWA recognized **Tom Enloe** with the annual Luna Ford Award. For the past decade the award has been given to a member who has given unfailingly to the club, in the spirit of its namesake, **Luna Ford**. Tom has served on the Executive Committee for eight years, including two years as President. He continues to shepherd our lending library, and he has served in many other capacities, including Program Committee Chairman. Tom has also served for several years as our representative on the board of Directors for the Southwest Association of Turners (SWAT). Tom is the type of member that makes the GCWA experience such an enriching one. Give him a big 'Thank You' the next time you see him at a meeting.

# Snapshots from The 2009 Retreat



Photography by Steve LeGrue, Luna Ford and Paul Millo

## Scheduled Meetings & Events

*Meeting dates and locations are subject to change.*

**June 20, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~**

**Location:** Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77074

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

**July 18, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~**

**Location:** 1st Presbyterian Church, 5300 Main St., Houston, TX 77002

**August 3, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~** TBA

**August 15, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~**

**Location:** Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, 4848 Main St, Houston, TX 77002

**September 7, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~** TBA

**September 19, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting**

**Location:** Mercer Arboretum, demonstrator, James Johnson

**October 5, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~** TBA

**October 10, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~** TBA

**October 16 - 18, 2009 ~ SWAT convention**

**Location:** Wichita Falls, TX

**November 9, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~** TBA

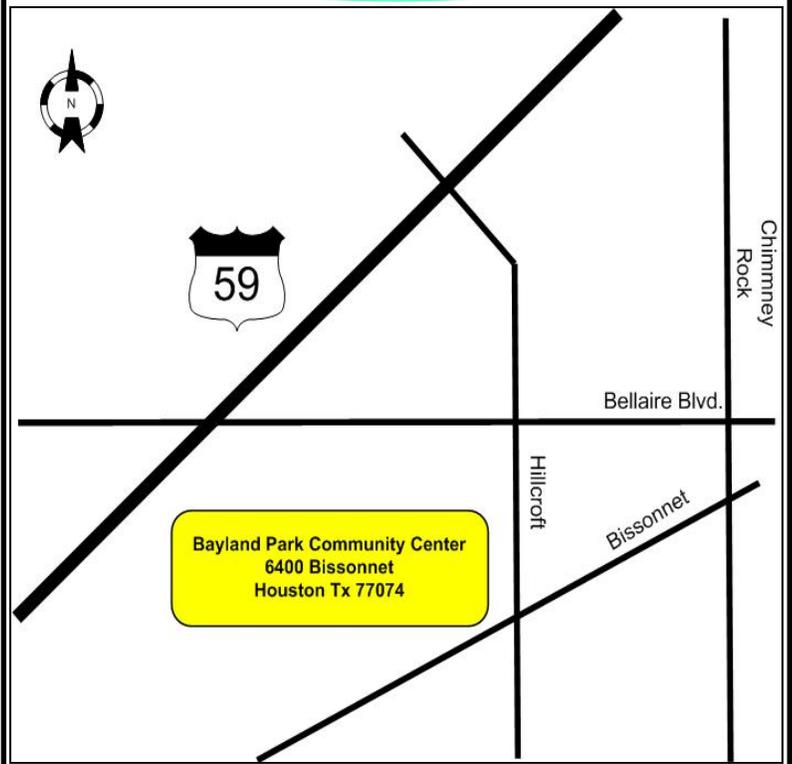
**November 21, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~** TBA

**December 7, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~** TBA

**December 19, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~**

**Location:** Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77074

**June Meeting**  
**Bayland Community Center**  
**6400 Bissonnet**  
**Houston, TX 77074**



## June Meeting Program

Bill Tilson will demonstrate how to make his famous flower petal vessels (part 2) or Thomas Irven will demonstrate eccentric turning.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

**Dave Barziza - Vice President/  
Judging**  
(713) 661-5941  
dbarziza@earthlink.net

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

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

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

**Ed Peine - Board Member**  
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**Derek Powers - Board Member**  
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**Bruno Wesolek - Board Member**  
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**Ben Gray - Board Member**  
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**Dale Barrack-Website Creative Director**  
(281) 358-8529

**Andy Chen—Newsletter Editor**  
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GCWA Websites:  
[www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org](http://www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org)  
<http://jhanley.us>

Program Chair  
Steve LeGrue

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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>  
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**