



GULF COAST WOODTURNER

August 2009



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I'm rushing to get this written in time for the August newsletter, so it may be a little disjointed. As you are all surely aware by now, SWAT is just around the corner. One of the ways that GCWA assists the symposium effort is by hosting a room, which means we provide a couple of people for each rotation to help the demonstrator set up, run the audio/visual equipment and assist with clean-up. This year we have been assigned room 3, which will be hosting **Frank Penta** (multi-axis projects), **Jamie Donaldson** (turning square forms and The Phrugal Photo Studio) and **Tom Farrell** (metal spinning). Volunteers will be expected to help with one, or at most 2 rotations. If you want the best seat in the house, sign up now. Please contact **Tom Enloe**

(tomtom3@comcast.net) and let him know that you are willing to volunteer. If you have not done so already, be sure to get your hotel room reserved soon. I understand that the host hotel is full for Friday night, but has rooms available for Saturday and Sunday nights. I encourage you to carpool to lower your expenses and have someone to talk to for the 7 hours it takes to get to Wichita Falls. For a full schedule of the SWAT proceedings, go to <http://www.swaturners.org/info/schedule.html>.

I'm sure you heard that GCWA lost one of our most outstanding turners and a fine human being, Bill Tilson. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Denise and their family. Please consider attending the memorial service at Huntsville State Park August 23 at 2 pm. Check our website for details.

We have some great programs coming up in the next few months, and August is no exception. **Gwynne Rukenbrod** of the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft will give us some tips on how to get your work noticed by juried art shows and galleries. She should give us some valuable information. In addition, the August meeting will be your easiest opportunity to see the current installation, DysFUNctional, which features our own **Jerry Bennett**. In September we will be hosting the inimitable **James Johnson** at Mercer Arboretum. James is well known to most Texas turners, but this time he won't be stunning us with his large turnings, but rather with his 'squirts'. James is a founding member of the AAW, and an inspirational source to many of us. In October, (10/10/09) one week prior to SWAT, we will get to see **Don Derry** demonstrate hollow forms and coloring (subject to change) at Foxfire Studio in Richmond. Don

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

is one of the originators of the torque-arresting hollowing systems and laser calipers for these rigs. He will offer a more in-depth afternoon session for those interested in attending (\$25 fee), and at least 2 hands-on sessions the following days (I anticipate \$125 per day per attendee). Topics for the Hands-on sessions may include Backwards Hollow Form Turning, an Ornament Workshop, and a session he calls 'Romancing the Curve'. More details will be posted on our website as they become available. Mark your calendars now for these exciting demonstrations.

Last month the GCWA Executive Board voted to try limiting the number of items that a member can bring for the juried Show-and-tell. To say that this was not the most popular thing we have ever done would be, well, you know. Our S&T tables contain an impressive array of objects, and it was never the intention of the board to limit this wonderful presentation. Rather, we hoped to allow more individuals to participate in the discussion of their work. Anyway, the Board has reversed itself and decided to go back to the good old days of unlimited S&T. Please bear in mind that some venues have limited space for S&T tables, and the jury committee must carry the winners through the crowd to get them photographed. Please be respectful of our **all volunteer** helpers. With this said, I do hope that turnings which are not selected for ribbons will be selected for discussion by the moderator.

Keep making shavings, and I hope to see you all at HCCC this August 15th.

Steve LeGrue

**August Meeting
August 15, 2009**

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

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 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 email Tom for pricing and information. 713-666-6881. trirven@sbcglobal.net.

For Sale – Rikon Mini Lathe with 24" bed extension and stand for both - \$250 for all. Contact Reggie Keith at reggie.keith@hoover-keith.com. 281-496-9876

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

August Meeting Program

By Jim Keller

The GCWA August Meeting will be held at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. Gwynne Rukenbrod, Curator of Fine Craft at the HCCC, will be talking about what is happening in the wood turning community at large. She will present a slide show of some new and inventive artists who are making their mark on this craft. Participants will then be broken up into groups and will be challenged to create a collaborative piece on paper that pushes the boundaries of turned wood art. Gwynne will then talk about the creative process and everyday obstacles that get in an artist's way of their creativity. This will be a great opportunity to exercise our minds in the creative process. Who knows maybe we'll come up with an idea for the AAW Chapter Collaborative for next year's

Gathering of the Guilds

By Jim Keller

The Gulf Coast Woodturners Association will be demonstrating at the Gathering of the Guilds on Saturday, September 12th, 2009 at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. This is a great opportunity to introduce the public to woodturning and gain new members for GCWA. We will like to have two lathes operating. The gathering will be from 10am to 5 pm. We need several volunteers to demonstrate on the 12th and to set up Friday afternoon. Please contact Jim Keller (jimkeller.foxfire@comcast.net) if you are available to demonstrate or help with set up.

Challenge VII dysFUNCTIONal

By Jim Keller & John Van Domelen

The Houston Center for Contemporary Craft is the first stop on a two year tour of the Wood Turning Center's Challenge VII dysfunctional exhibition. This continues the history of cooperation between the Wood Turning Center and HCCC which in 2002 also hosted the Challenge VI exhibition Roots - Insights & Inspiration in Contemporary Turned Objects. The exhibition will be on display at HCCC until September 13, 2009. Be sure to check it out while you are there for our August meeting.

Exhibition at The Museum of Fine Arts Houston

By Jim Keller

The Museum of Fine Arts Houston guided by Cindi Strauss, Curator, Modern and Contemporary Decorative Arts and Design, is building a comprehensive collection of Decorative Arts with a balance of all media. The MFA's collection of turned wood has grown from one Ed Moulthrop bowl in 2000 to over fifty pieces, representing the work of many of the acknowledged masters in the field.

An exhibition "Recent Accessions in Design" will open August 16th at MFA. The exhibition will include fifteen turned wood pieces. This is an opportunity to see world class work in a Museum setting right here in Houston. Let's show the MFA that there is a large audience of wood lovers in Houston.

MEMBERSHIP



Bill Tilson 1945 - 2009

Beloved husband and father William Rand "Bill" Tilson, Jr. passed away July 21, 2009 in Huntsville, Texas at the age of 63.

Bill was born September 23, 1945 in Glendale, California to William R. "WR" Tilson, Sr. and Naomi Hamm Tilson. Bill was preceded in death by his father in 1977 and his mother in 2001. He is survived by wife Denise, daughter Elizabeth Chapman and her husband Michael Chapman, sister, Linda Tilson of Venice, Florida, mother-in-law Gloria Larkin and brother-in-law Daryl Giebelstein. He will be missed by his canine shop pal Riata and spirited grand-dogs Blue, Roxie and Belle.

Bill graduated from Matador High School in 1964 and attended Texas Tech University before joining the Air Force as a navigational equipment technician. After proudly serving his country, he began work in Houston, Texas at Western Electric Company which ultimately became Lucent Technologies.

In a career that spanned more than thirty years, Bill began as a Western Electric central office installer and worked his way up through the ranks to Operations Area Manager of Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas. He received numerous commendations and was one of only a handful of employees to be awarded the top Employee Suggestion Award of \$10,000 -- which he received twice.

Topping the list of what mattered most to Bill was family. His wife Denise and daughter Elizabeth were the lights of his life. Bill married Denise Adrienne Giebelstein on October 2, 1971 in Houston, Texas. Daughter Elizabeth Diane was born May 13, 1977 in Houston. Seconds after her birth, Bill held her in his arms and their life-long mutual adoration began. Elizabeth married Michael Chapman on May 18, 2002. Through the years whether thick or thin, Bill often used a phrase that his family will forever hold in their hearts: "Give it to me; I've got broad shoulders."

Bill had many interests including fishing, science fiction, vegetable gardening, jazz, bagpipe music, and tracking NASA's missions, but his one true calling was woodworking. Bill retired in 2001 and in 2003 he and his wife escaped from the big city to Huntsville's peaceful piney woods. At last he was able to pursue his long-delayed dream that had begun with his introduction to woodworking and turning in high school shop. His work ranged from stick ponies and puzzles to furniture, cabinetry and trim. As his turning abilities matured and his creativity blossomed, Bill's creations included elaborate inlaid bowls, vases and boxes. His proudest creation was his innovative petal series which had become his signature.

Bill was well known in the national wood turning community for his original and artistic pieces. He was active in the Gulf Coast Woodturners in Houston, The Brazos Valley Turners in College Station, the World of Woodturners and The American Association of Woodturners, where he had been invited to demonstrate at this year's national symposium. His beautiful art can be found in many collections and galleries around the country.

Fellow members of the woodturning communities say that Bill never said an unkind word about anyone and was always ready to lend a hand or share his knowledge. He was considered a wonderful friend, a gifted teacher and a talented turner. In turn, Bill would often comment on how grateful he was for the friendship, inspiration and teachings of his fellow woodturners.

Interment will be in the Tilson family plot in East Mound Cemetery, Matador, Texas. Friends and family will be gathering together to celebrate Bill's extraordinary life. All are invited to attend on Sunday, August 23, at 2:00 p.m. at Huntsville State Park's Raven Lodge (Group Rec Center). Food and drink will be provided.

Memorial contributions can be made in Bill's honor to the American Association of Woodturners, Educational Opportunity Grant Program. Memorial donations via mail can be sent to AAW EOG Fund, Donation in honor of Bill Tilson, 222 Landmark Center, 75 West 5th Street, St. Paul, MN 55102. Donations by credit card may be made by calling the AAW office at 651-484-9094 and asking to make a donation in honor of Bill Tilson to the AAW EOG fund.

Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.shmfh.com

Who Made These Items . . . and why aren't they in a Gold Gallery?

By Dale Barrack



GCWA members are prolific turners! Not only do members bring lots of items to each month's Show & Tell, but the variety of the items is truly amazing, too. Even with five judging categories, there is a lot of competition for ribbons and sometimes highly worthy items go unrewarded.

In an attempt to give credit where credit is due, we often select items to be photographed even though they haven't won a ribbon (the ones pictured are examples). These items are displayed in the monthly galleries in the "Other Interesting Pieces" or "Other Noteworthy Items" or "Other Entries" or "Miscellaneous Entries" (the name of the of the section of the web page where other items are featured varies from month to month).

If you've had an item selected for this special photography you can have it added to your personal Gold Gallery, by contacting Dale Barrack at rdalebarrack@earthlink.net and advising which year and month the item was featured and describe the item—e.g., "4th item in the first row of the July 2009 Other Noteworthy Items section", or "2nd item in the second row of the November 2008 Other Entries section."

If you don't currently have a Gold Gallery, one will be created for you.

Prolific Turners – Your Attention, Please!

By Dale Barrack

GCWA is proud to feature the turnings of its member's on our website and hopes that your work will help our club stand out in the world of woodturning! One of the ways we do this is by encouraging members to feature their very best work in their Gold Galleries. For this reason, Gold Galleries are limited to 16 items. If your gallery has reached its limit, please determine if pictures of recent turnings warrant replacing older pictures.

To have older pictures (i.e., less desirable turnings in your opinion) replaced, please contact Dale Barrack at rdalebarrack@earthlink.net and indicate which items you want added by identifying the year/month/award category/place of the item(s) and indicate which items you want removed from your current Gold Gallery by identifying the row and position number of the item(s). For example, "Add July 2009 Best of Show Award and replace item 1, row 3 in my current Gold Gallery" –or– "Add June 2009 Enhanced Honorable Mention and delete item 1, Row 2 in my current Gold Gallery."

It's easy to locate your turnings in our monthly galleries! To find all the items you've made that have won awards since 2005, go to the GCWA [homepage](#) and use the Google "Search Our Site" search feature. Just type in your name and click Search. Compare the results with your present Gold Gallery, then decide which pictures you want to add and which you want to delete. It's EASY folks—try it!

Please keep your Gold Gallery refreshed!

Memorial Services for Bill Tilson

By Kendall Westbrook

Here's the information from the family on Bill Tilson's memorial service:

The date is August 23rd, 2 p.m., at the Huntsville State Park Raven Lodge/Group Recreation Center. That is the indoor stone and cedar building on the lake. It is air conditioned and there is a kitchen and patio. Lunch will be served following the service.

Attendees should tell the park attendants that they're attending the Bill Tilson memorial services, and they'll let them through without paying a fee.

The park will furnish 84 chairs. We have no idea how many will show up. So folks may want to bring a folding chair, just in case.

JULY SHOW & TELL

Best of Show

Andy Chen
One Up on Potters



Judges: Greg Gonsalves and Clyde Collier

Photos: Paul Millo



Advanced Category

1st Place – Larry Zarra
Red malee burl shallow bowl



2nd Place – Fog Tanner
Maple Bowl



3rd Place – Larry Zarra
Mulberry Horn or Plenty



Honorable Mention – By Reed
Mesquite bowl



Intermediate Category

1st Place – Rene Gonzales
Box elder/sycamore kaleidoscope



2nd Place – Jerry Harmsen
Olive wood pen



3rd Place – Doug Grissom, Mesquite Bowl



Beginner Category

1st Place – Ken Hall – Maple bowl



2nd Place – Dayton Dickey
Toothpick holder
Pecan



3rd Place – Linda Hall
Bowl



Honorable Mention – Ken Hall
Pecan box



Enhanced Category

1st Place – Gary Rock
Aspen/purple heart hollow form



2nd Place – Eddie James
Tear of Grief



3rd Place – Doug Grissom
Mosquito bowl



Honorable Mention – Bill Pottorf pecan bowl



Segmented Category

1st Place – Eddie James
Multi-species hollow form



2nd Place – Andy Chen
Afzelia box with cocobolo/blackwood lid



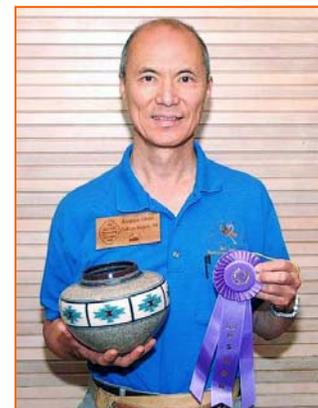
3rd Place – Eddie James
Multi-species hollow form



Honorable Mention – Doug Olesen
Multi-species hollow form



Snapshots from the July meeting



Pictures can be viewed at www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org

Photos: Paul Millo

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.

August 15, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~
Location: Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, 4848 Main St, Houston, TX 77002, demonstrator, Gwynne Rukenbrod

September 7, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~ Thomas Irven

September 19, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting
Location: Mercer Arboretum, demonstrator, James Johnson

October 5, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~ Ben Gray

October 10, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~ demonstrator, Don Derry.

October 16 - 18, 2009 ~ SWAT convention
Location: Wichita Falls, TX

November 9, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~ Ed Peine

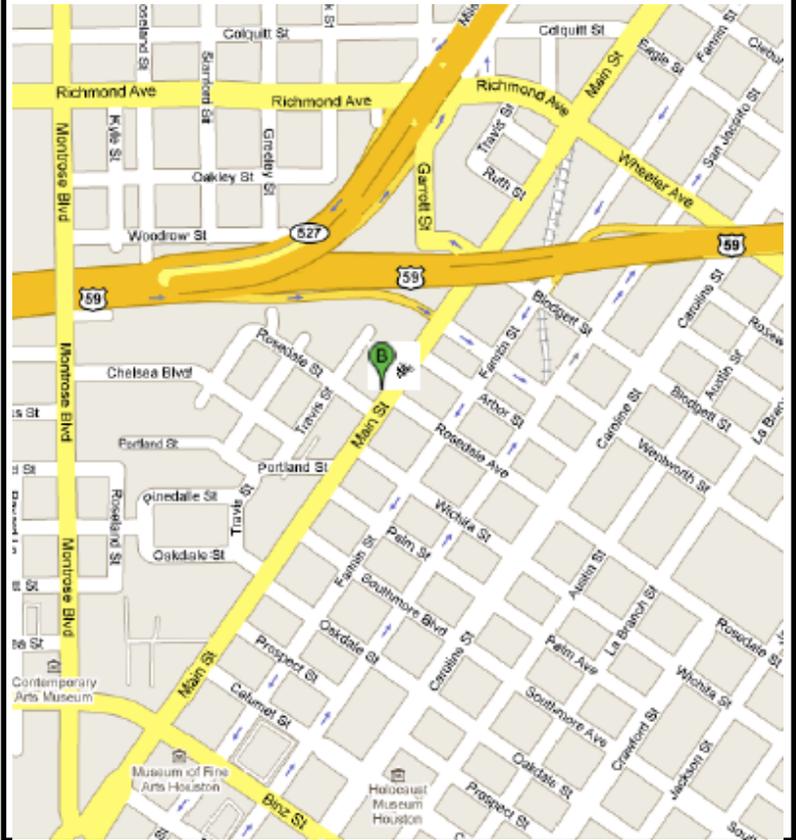
November 21, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~ TBA

December 7, 2009 ~ Board Meeting ~ George Kabacinski

December 19, 2009 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~
Location: Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77074

August Meeting

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



August Meeting Program

Gwynne Rukenbrod, Curator of Fine Craft at the HCCC, will be talking about woodturning from a gallery perspective.

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
 (713) 977-9922
 epeine@comcast.net

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

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

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

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

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

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

Program Chair
Steve LeGrue

Copyright 2009 GCWA

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.texasturnortwo.com>
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**