

# GULF COAST WOODTURNER

July, 2010



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I missed the June meeting, but I know that **Tom Enloe** gave a very interesting demonstration of the threading he does for various projects. Thanks, Tom, for stepping up to fill in on short notice. In an effort to better match the meeting demonstration to the venue, I have changed the **July topic** to **'Tool Steels Used in Woodturning--Which is Right for You?'**. The July meeting is at First Presbyterian Church in the museum district. I have moved the Hollowing Tool Rodeo back to August, when we meet at Bayland again. I hope that you will bring your favorite hollowing system to that meeting for some hands-on experience.

Speaking of the July meeting at **First Presbyterian Church**, we donate turning to the church in lieu of their \$1000 rental fee (see page 4). The church auctions these turnings to raise money for their coffers. We need members to bring turnings for donation to the June meeting. If you have any questions, contact Jim Keller or me. Also at the June meeting, we will again have a critique session during the social hour from 9 to 10. This is a valuable opportunity to learn from others how your work is perceived, and how you might improve your art. So bring a recent piece for critique.

We have lots of things going on during the balance of the year. Next month is the annual **SWAT symposium**, now scheduled for August in Waco. The new August dates were chosen so as to not conflict with Baylor football. The rotations are set, and several great turners from Texas and around the world will be demonstrating. These include our own **Andy Chen and Jim Keller**, Texans **Clay Foster and James Johnson**, as well as **Eli Avisera, Molly Winton, Mike Jackofsky, Jennifer Shirley, and Alan Leland**. You can still pre-register through July 24 at [www.swaturners.org](http://www.swaturners.org).

We will again be hosting a demo room at SWAT. This year we are in Room 3, where demos by Kurt Bird, James Johnson and Molly Winton will be held (see pages 8 & 9). We need volunteers to help host the room. This will include helping the demonstrator with whatever they need, and running the 'video switch' to jump between different cameras. SWAT is providing students to actually operate the hand-held cameras, so you won't have that worry. We will be using our own A/V equipment, so if you have any experience on our equipment now is the time to put it to use. Please contact me, **Steve LeGrue**, if you can help.

GCWA Web Sites:

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

You may remember that SWAT made 2 registration passes available to GCWA, and over the past 2 months I have solicited applications for them. The closing date was July 1<sup>st</sup>, and the winners have been selected: Congratulations to **Tommy Joe and Delia Spicer**.

None of the current board have access to a copy machine, so our expenses for printing newsletters for snail mail and the local retail woodworking stores is more expensive than anticipated. If you have access to reproduction equipment that we can use for our newsletter and it will cost less than \$0.09 per page, please contact Ed Peine. Also, if you are currently getting the newsletter through regular mail, please consider allowing us to e-mail the newsletter to you. Printing and mailing a hard-copy newsletter costs us about \$1 each, whereas e-mail is free.

Some of you are aware that at the recent AAW symposium in Hartford, the Board of Directors met in executive session and fired long-time AAW stalwart **Mary Lacer** as Executive Director. In addition to nurturing the association through its first 25 years, Mary was named an Honorary Lifetime member for her contributions to the AAW. Hiring and firing decisions are made everyday, but the circumstances of Mary's firing left a bad taste in many members' mouths. If you are interested in following the discussion, check out the AAW forum at [www.aawforum.org/vbforum/index.php](http://www.aawforum.org/vbforum/index.php), under 'AAW Information'.

How does this mess affect GCWA? Not very much right now. It may have an adverse effect on our bid for the 2014 symposium, but the AAW continues to function, support chapters and print a brilliant journal 6 times a year. The most obvious issue is that the by-laws of the AAW allowed this to happen. The GCWA board has been struggling with our outdated by-laws for several years, and the

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**July Meeting  
July 17, 2010**

**First Presbyterian Church  
5300 Main St, Houston, TX 77004**

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

FOR SALE: Wood turning KITS, Toothpick/ Secret compartment key ring kits (50+) \$2.00 each. Bracelet Helper kits \$3.00 each. Gemini Pen kits \$3.00 each. Assortment of Diamond-wood Pen blanks \$2.00 each. See Ron Day at June & July GCWA meetings or contact at [ron-day@suddenlink.net](mailto:ron-day@suddenlink.net) 979-775-3565 (home).

FOR SALE: Two, too many middies, must sell. Delta Midi w/bed extension, drive spur, live spur, knock out bar and tool rest. \$300.00 School Model Rockwell - 10" x 36" variable speed, drive and live spur, tool rest. Heavy duty, recently refurbished. \$400.00. Ben Gray: 713-492-9148 (M), [beng@rigidbuilding.com](mailto:beng@rigidbuilding.com)

### WOODWORKING SHOP ESTATE SALE

10 am – 2 pm, Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>  
3809 Brookwoods, Houston 77092  
Complete workshop with everything you can imagine for sale.....from a Powermatic 10" Tilting Arbor Table Saw to a bottle of glue. Everything must go. You may Call Linda Lehmann @ 832-473-5014 for information.

*Continued from page 1*

AAW mess just exemplifies the importance of a quality set of by-laws. We are trying to get a new document to the membership before the end of 2010.

Keep in mind that **Mike Hosaluk** will be our featured demonstrator in November, and he will be leading group hands-on sessions during the following week at Jim Keller's Foxfire Studio. The November meeting has been moved up to the second Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in a private session with Michael, please let me know. More information to follow, so stay tuned.

See you at First Presbyterian church, and keep making shavings.

*Steve LeGrue*

## Gold Galleries

By Dale Barrack

Gold Galleries have been undated with June Show & Tell Winners and a new gallery has been added for Chuck Johnson.

A number of pictures of excellent turnings could not be posted to members' Gold Galleries because the galleries are full, meaning that the maximum of 16 pictures has been reached. GCWA members with full Gold Galleries are encouraged to display their very best work and often members' most recent work is much better than previous work. For those of you with full galleries, please take a look at your most recent Show & Tell Award winners and decide if these are better than any of your previous Gold Gallery items. If they are, please contact me with the following information:

- The item(s) you want to add (identify the item by its year, month and award designation—for example, 2010, March, Intermediate 2nd place).
- The item(s) want to remove (identify them by row and position number of your Gold Gallery—for example, Row 1, position 2, i.e., the second item in row one).

Send your requests to me at [rdalebarrack@earthlink.net](mailto:rdalebarrack@earthlink.net)

A number of new member do not have personal pictures on file for inclusion in their Gold Galleries. While there is no requirement that you include a personal picture of yourself in your Gold Gallery, if you would like to do so, please see me at July's meeting. I will be taking portrait picture of any member who wants one taken.

## MEMBERSHIP

Robert Zellers and Billy West joined the club in the past month. Welcome aboard guys.

## Going to College – Pens and Pepper Mills

By George Kabacinski

Once the heat of summer passes turners start to think about the upcoming holiday season and what great gifts turned items make – especially pens and pepper mills. Tommy Joe has asked GCWA to assist in putting on workshops for some of the faculty and students and the University of Houston to help them produce pens and pepper mills as holiday gifts. Tommy is looking for help with loans of equipment and talent in putting on the workshops. They will be held at his shop on the U of H central campus – the same place he allows us to meet and hold demos.

For GCWA this will be a great opportunity to give back to U of H for supporting us. It will also allow some members of the faculty and student body to get a taste of hands-on woodturning. This, of course, shows the participants what we can do and may lead to additional membership for GCWA.

Please look to future issues of the newsletter for more details on dates, times, and get ready to get involved and take woodturning to college at U of H.

## Who Is That Sitting Next to You?

By George Kabacinski

Have you ever been to a GCWA meeting and wondered who the person sitting next to you is? What's there background? How did they get started in turning? Sure, you could ask, and it would probably be a very interesting conversation, but not during the demo please. Another way is to read future issues of this newsletter. An idea has been brought up to run a monthly piece that introduces one of our members to the rest of the group. We will, of course, skip those in the witness protection program.

Do you have a knack for writing and an interest in getting to know your fellow turners a bit more? We're looking for someone to take on this series of articles. The task would include developing a content structure to use, interviewing club members and writing the articles. Each article should be around one page for the newsletter and include a nice photo of the turner and possibly one of some of his/her turnings.

If you're ready to have your journalistic talents shine for your fellow club members please contact Andy Chen to get involved in this really cool opportunity.

## September Class – Design Opportunities with Piercing & Carving

By Paula Haymond

The Design Opportunities with Piercing & Carving class is set for Saturday, September 25, 2010. The class fee is \$35 and the class is limited to six students. Here's a bit more detail on the class plan.

Students will create either a small thin wall platter, bowl or hollow form using the turning tools of their choice, although the smaller gouge for fine cuts is better. After completing the form, methods of laying out a pattern or design will be addressed with several types of transfer materials being used. Resource and reference materials will be provided to stimulate your brain to think outside the box or at least consider a variety of patterns and themes you might have overlooked before.

As the projects progress, discussion and demonstration as well as hands-on use of a variety of thin wall piercing tools will be explored. Air powered dental burs as well as flex shaft powered micro bits will be used to achieve these intricate patterns.

New techniques for multi-layered piecing as well as texturing techniques will be offered as alternatives to the smooth walled forms we all strive to achieve in our shops. These techniques are intended to add some new dimensions to your work and to provide the student with options for embellishment.

As the months move toward the actual class, I will be developing more techniques for adding color and design to your pieces. Students are encouraged to bring wood burning tools, paints, micro tools and any ideas that you have to venture out into the your world of art and form.

In addition to the class fee there is likely to be a materials fee. This, along with class logistics, will be sent along to students prior to the class.

George Kabacinski is handling the class registration and he reports the class is now full and he has a wait list. As the wait list lengthens, I am sure we can convince George to loan his shop out for a second day of training and exploration of thin wall turning, piercing and design. So even though the September 25<sup>th</sup> class is filled please do contact George if you are interested in this class so he can work on a second session!

# CRITIQUE AT THE JULY MEETING

By Jim Keller

At The July Meeting a Critique will be held during the first hour of the meeting. Anyone who would like to have their work critiqued may bring it in to the Critique Room. We will critique as many pieces as time will allow. Anyone who is interested in observing the critique is welcome to sit in. After the Critique session the work can be moved to Show and Tell for judging.

In the world of art education the critique is a process to evaluate the work of an artist. The dictionary defines critique as "A serious examination and judgment of something", "a critical analysis", "a careful judgment of work".

Within woodturning clubs critiques have been used with varying results. The best way to know where you are in your development as a wood turner/artist is to find out what other people think you are doing well and what areas you could improve. Historically some people do not take criticism well. The purpose of critique is not to criticize, but to provide a critical analysis.

## ELEMENTS OF A THOROUGH CRITIQUE

A thorough critique is based upon looking carefully at the following elements:

1. **Craftsmanship:** A well crafted piece will not contain flaws such as torn grain, sanding scratches, tool marks, poorly fitting parts, etc. The mastery of the materials and tools has a great impact on the overall perceived quality of the work.
2. **Pleasing Curves:** Pleasing curves should contain no flat spots. Curves that vary are usually more pleasing than curves with a constant arc. There is no mathematical formula that can be used to identify the best line. The ability to see a fair curve is a skill developed

with experience.

3. **Thematic Coherence:** In most designs the individual elements should be supportive of the design goal. The shape of the parts of a design as well as the textures, colors, size of the components should work together to support the theme or intent of the work.
4. **Scale and Proportion:** It is important to remember that size is a design element that should be purposely chosen to support a design goal. Whether large or small, the scale should be part of the design that makes sense.
5. **Sensory Elements:** We experience woodturnings through all of our senses. Visually color, texture and natural flaws such as knots, voids and bark inclusions can impact the work. The balance and weight of a piece impact the way a piece is perceived.
6. **Use and Function:** In some works practical considerations are important. The design elements must take into consideration how an object is to be used or displayed.

## GCWA CRITIQUE BASIC ASSUMPTIONS

1. **Purpose:** The major goal of critique is to provide information to others so they can improve their work or become aware of new ideas that can be applied to change their work in the future.
2. **Communication:** The critique needs to make sure to communicate respect for the work.
3. **How much information:** Two or three suggestions are appropriate.
4. **Type of Information:** Be descriptive when communicating the perceived.
5. **Truthfulness:** The credibility of the process requires that the information shared be based on a truthful evaluation.

## Help Pay the Rent

By Jim Keller

Again this year First Presbyterian Church is allowing GCWA to meet in their Fellowship Hall at no charge, (the

normal rental rate is \$1,000). To show the Clubs appreciation we are requesting our members to bring turned object to the July meeting to donate to First Presbyterian Church for their future fund raising auction. Thank you for your support.

## Pens for College

By Andy Chen

Rude Osolnik sent his kids to college by selling his signature candle sticks. Now, the young Alex Lesniak from North Carolina is turning pens to help pay for his own college education. This young man started turning pens two years ago at the age of 11 when he got interested in turning at a woodworking show in Raleigh, NC. He convinced his parents to buy a lathe and pen accessories using establishing a college fund as a justification. He has now

won all sorts of awards, most notably a clean sweep of Klingspor's Woodworking Extravaganza in Raleigh, North Carolina and even winning the Best in Show for the youth division in 2009. Way to go, Alex!! Best of luck with your future endeavor. (For more information, go to <http://pensforcollege.com>)



# JUNE SHOW & TELL

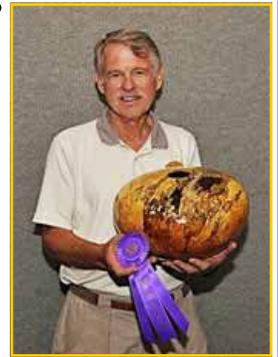
## Best of Show

Box elder hollow form



Judges: Clyde Collier and Don Smith

Photos: **Paul Millo**



## Advanced Category

### 1st Place – Jerry Collins



Box elder bowl

### 2nd Place – Jerry Collins



Box elder plate

### 3rd Place – Don Fluker

Magnolia hollow form



## Intermediate Category

### 1st Place – Chuck Johnson



Ash vase

### 2nd Place – Chuck Johnson



Curly maple vase

### 3rd Place – Chuck Johnson

China berry bowl



## Beginner Category

### 1st Place – Georgene Huckeba



Goblet (unknown wood)

### 2nd Place – Georgene Huckeba



Goblet (unknown wood)

## Enhanced Category

### 1st Place – Gary Rock



Cedar bowl

### 2nd Place – Gary Rock



3-sided lidded vessel (dyed ash)

### 3rd Place – Kendall Westbrook



Spalted pecan hollow form

## Segmented Category

### 1st Place – Kendall Westbrook



Plywood vase

### 2nd Place – Clyde Collier



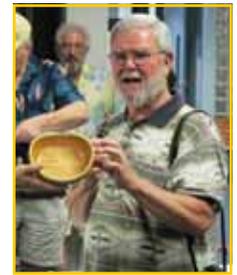
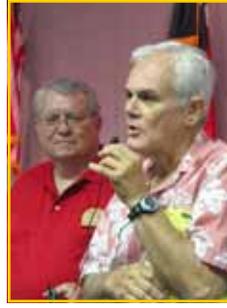
Peruvian walnut/maple sphere

### 3rd Place – John Gay



Oak cookie jar

## Snapshots from the June Meeting



Pictures can be viewed at [www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org](http://www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org)

Photos: Dale Barrack & 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.*

**July 17, 2010 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~ 9:00 AM - noon** ~ Demonstrator, Steve LeGrue

**Location:** First Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX

**August 9, 2010 ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM**

**August 21, 2010 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~ 9:00 AM - noon**

**Location:** Bayland Community Center, Houston, TX

**August 27-29, 2010 ~ SWAT Annual Symposium, Waco, TX**

**September 7, 2010 ~ Board Meeting ~ 7:00 PM**

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

**Location:** Mercer Arboretum

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

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

**Location:** Clark's Hardwood Lumber

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

**November 13, 2010 ~ GCWA General Meeting ~ 9:00 AM - noon** ~ Demonstrator, Michael Hosaluk

**Location:** Foxfire Studios

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

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

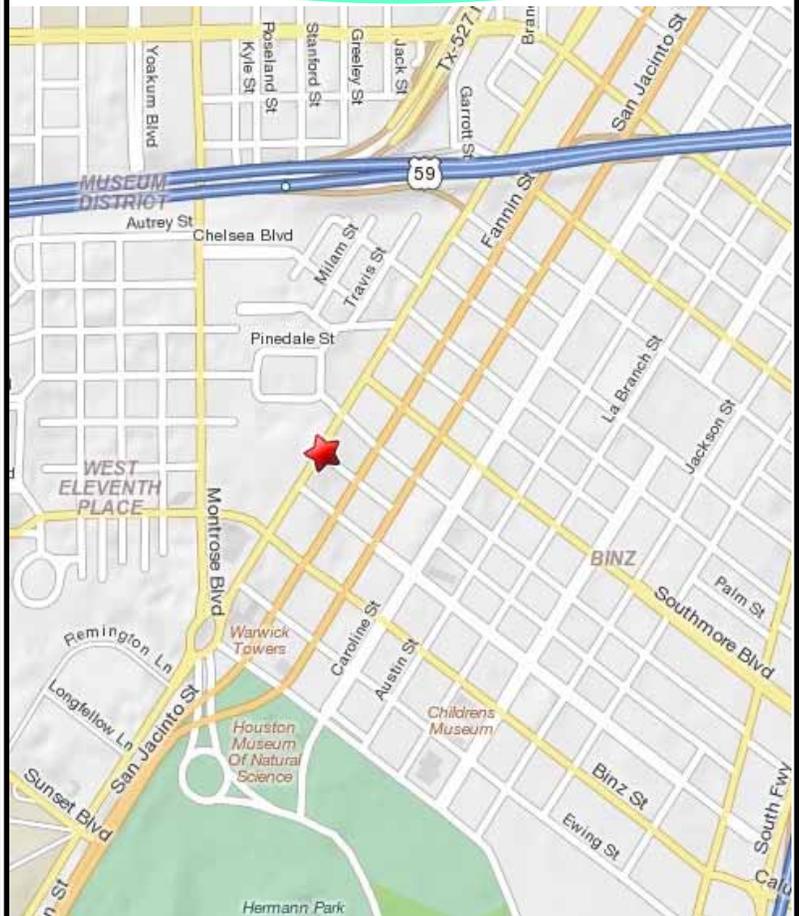
**Location:** Bayland Community Center, Houston, TX

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

**Location:** University of Houston

## July Meeting

**First Presbyterian Church**  
5300 Main St, Houston, TX 77004



## July Meeting Program

Tool Steels Used in Woodturning - Which Is Right for You

## 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

## Friday - August 27, 2010

Room Sponsors	Hunt County Woodturners	Dallas Area Woodturners	Gulf Coast Woodturners	Central Texas Woodturners/ Brazos Valley Woodturners	Woodturners of North Texas / Hill Country Turners
<b>Time:</b>	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4	Room 5
<b>10:30-12:00</b>	Eli Avisera  Bowl with Leaves Inlay	Jim Keller  Hollow Forms with Negative Space	Kurt Bird  Designing and turning table legs - Techniques for making a set	Craig Timmerman  Turn a Torus Vase	Don Ward  Penturning - So, That's a slimline?
<b>12:00-1:30</b>	Lunch Opening Ceremony and Lead Demonstrator Introduction				
<b>1:30-3:00</b>	Eli Avisera Boxes with new ideas for texturing and coloring in off-center	Tom Farrell Hemispherical Christmas Ornaments	James Johnson Basics – How to cut cleanly using various tools. Measuring wall thickness, and sanding techniques	Craig Timmerman Turn a Torus Vase	Dan Henry Decorating with a Rose Engine Lathe Bottle Stopper
<b>4:00-5:30</b>	Eli Avisera Square Bowl w/Off-Center	Jim Keller Hollow Forms with Negative Space	Kurt Bird Designing and turning table legs Techniques for making a set	Andy Chen Cutting Spirals on a Cylindrical Turning	Don Ward Penturning - So, from what material was that pen made
<b>7:30</b>	SIG Meetings (Beginning turners, Pen turners, Segmented turners, Rose engine and ornamental turning). Rooms to be announced.				

## Saturday - August 28, 2010

Time:	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4	Room 5
<b>8:-9:30</b>	Alan Leland  Turning a Natural Edge Mushroom Box with Hand Chased Threads	Tom Farrell  Hemispherical Christmas Ornaments	Molly Winton  Intro to Surface Enhancements	Jennifer Shirley and Clay Foster Turn Me a Story	Mike Jackofsky  Hollowing a Large Open Bowl with hollowing tools
<b>10:30-12:00</b>	Alan Leland Turning A Hollow Globe Ornament with a Delicate Icicle	Clay Foster Multiple Axis Vessel, Process and Concepts	Molly Winton Making and Using Homemade Brands	Jennifer Shirley Big Ideas In a Small Package	Mike Jackofsky Basic Hollowing for Beginners

<b>12:00-1:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>				
<b>1:30-3:00</b>	Alan Leland Turning A Three Legged Stool	Clay Foster One the Surface – Low Tec/low cost Surface Decoration	Molly Winton Creating Mini Vessels w/ Carving	Jennifer Shirley Decorating Our Work Instructed or Instinctiv	Mike Jackofsky Natural Edge Burl Hollow Form
<b>4:00-5:30</b>	Alan Leland Turning a Hollow Globe Ornament with a Delicate Icicle	Anna Rachinsky Small Boxes w/ tight and loose fitting lids.	Molly Winton Making and Using Home Made Brands	Jennifer Shirley Big Ideas In a Small Package	Mike Jackofsky Basic Hollowing for Beginners
<b>5:30-6:30</b>	<b>Cash Bar</b> Lead Demonstrator Critique of Pieces from Instant Gallery				
<b>6:30-9:00</b>	<b>Banquet and 2-For-1 Raffle</b>				

### SUNDAY AUGUST 29, 2010

	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4	Room 5
<b>8:00-9:30</b>	Eli Avisera Goblet with Star Segment and Tromblaire	Anna Rachinsky Small Boxes w/ tight and loose fitting lids	Molly Winton Creating Mini Vessels W/ Carving	Jennifer Shirley The Turned Canvas: Designs, Patterns, Textures and Rhythm:	Mike Jackofsky Hollowing a large open bowl w/ hollowing tools
<b>10:30-12:00</b>	Eli Avisera Boxes with new ideas for texturing and coloring in off-center	Alan Leland Turning a Three Legged Stool	James Johnson Basics – How to cut cleanly using various tools. Measuring wall thickness, and sanding techniques	Andy Chen Cutting Spirals on a Cylindrical Turning	Dan Henry Decorating with a Rose Engine Lathe Bottle Stopper
<b>12:00-1:30</b>	<b>Lunch, 2-For-1 Raffle</b>				
<b>1:30</b>	<b>Symposium Ends</b>				

Email: [gcwa@swbell.net](mailto:gcwa@swbell.net)  
GCWA Websites:  
[www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org](http://www.gulfcoastwoodturners.org)

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>  
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.swturners.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