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# SKEWED

**Journal of the Glendale Woodturners Guild**

Volume 17, Number 3 – March 2008

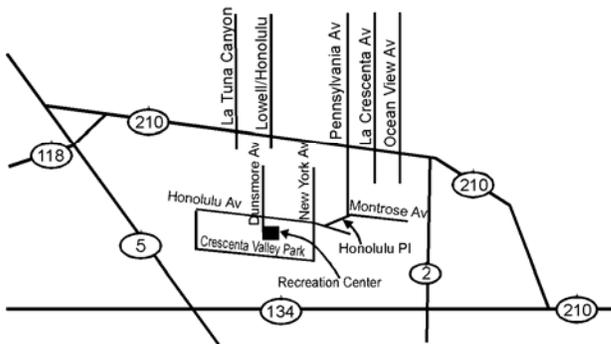
## NEXT MEETING

*March 9, 2008*

Sunday March 9, 2008  
2:00 p.m. Sharp

## HOW TO FIND US

Crescenta Valley Regional Park  
Recreation Center  
Dunsmore & Honolulu, La Crescenta



Thomas Guide 534-E-1

## SUNDAY MEETINGS

Meetings consist of announcements, a feature presentation, a Challenge, Show & Tell and a wood raffle

**March 9, 2008–**

**Presentation: ? ? ? ? ? ?**

**Challenge: Gavel with or without sounding block**

## President's Message



We had a beautiful spring like day for our meeting on Sunday. You know its nice out when half of the members show up in shorts in February! I was thrilled to see lots of competition for the February challenge. The whole table was full with all kinds of exotic looking mushrooms. Next month's challenge is a gavel with a sounding block. Everyone can get just as creative as you did with the

mushrooms. Lets have a full table for the challenge every month this year!

Thank you again to **Floyd Pedersen** for bringing in some very nice blocks for our monthly raffle. Remember that these walnut and mahogany pieces will make some nice gavels for next month. **Craig Sobel** and **Bill Noble** have been hard at work updating and adding new features to our web site at <http://www.woodturners.org/>. If you haven't seen the site in a while, go check out all of the new features. Thanks guys.

The club decided to donate \$1 per AAW member to the AAW to help offset the cost of the liability insurance they provide to us for free every year. I'm sure they will appreciate it. They sent us extra copies of *American Woodturner* for our library along with some membership applications. There are benefits to being a member. You get a cool magazine, discount tickets to the symposium, and the annual AAW Resource Directory among other things.

**Pierre Mathieu** gave us a great presentation on getting a fingernail grind on your gouges using handmade jigs. I am always jealous of members who are handy at making their own tools and jigs. You can save a lot of money that way and spend it on exotic woods instead. I missed the January meeting but heard that **Jerry Glaser** came and donated a bunch of tools. We are going to put them in our next holiday auction. Thanks Jerry. Speaking of donating, **Dick Lukes** brought in a big stock pile of really cool art magazines. **Deb Sigel**, or librarian, is going to group them in binders so we

can check them out like the books. You can get some great ideas by looking at art and other mediums. Thanks Dick. You still have a couple of months to make a piece to enter into either the Orange County or San Diego County fairs. We have lots of talented members who should go after a share of that prize money. Be sure and bring in your pieces for show and tell; we all love to see what everyone is making.

Happy turning. Queen Carey

## Challenge

We had thirteen members bring in 37 very different mushrooms for this month's challenge! Wow, thank you everyone! The judges were **Stephen Powell** and **Ed Hotchkin** since last month's winner **Ray Ford** was not there.

In the Novice category we had two members with entries. The first was **Jack Stumph** with his mahogany and mystery wood toothpick holder.



And the winner in the novice category was **John Doyle** who brought in a bucket full of entries out of walnut and oak and several other mystery species. The winning entry is the large "Portobello" in the upper right of the photo.



In the intermediate category we had an entry from **Pat Bradshaw** that must have been the poisonous kind because of its green color.



**Ralph Chamlee** brought in his walnut stained and carved wild mushroom.



**Frank Guarino** brought in two entries turned from Chinese elm.



And the winner in the category was **Bob Fahrbruch** for his excellent interpretation with natural edges out of plum with the hand carved gills underneath the cap.



In the advanced category we had **Jay Jackson** and his two mushrooms turned from mystery wood.



Our Queen Carey Caries brought in a mini 'shroom out of olive and brought a magnifier too. This is almost ¼ inch high, was that an olive pit you used Carey?



**Jim Givens** had his myrtle mushrooms on a painted and stained wood like setting.



**Floyd Pedersen** brought in a collection of "coastal mushrooms" on a piece of driftwood.



**Pete Carta** had one turned from sycamore and a box from cypress.



And the winner in the advanced category was **Dave Hergesheimer** with his abstract tree mushrooms turned from ash and mahogany and finished with black and red lacquer. Beautiful!



**Jerry Davis** had four natural edge mushrooms turned from Manzanita.



## Show and Tell

We had a lot of members bring in their latest turnings for show and tell. First off was **Floyd Pedersen** who brought in his first turned cowboy hat out of ash. And it fits his head too!



**Jim Givens** brought in a natural edge bowl turned from one of Steve Dunn's burls.



**Pete Carta** brought in a Jimmy Clewes style oriental bowl out of sycamore.



And a second hollow form turned from ash that had a very small opening that he said made getting the chips out a "little difficult".



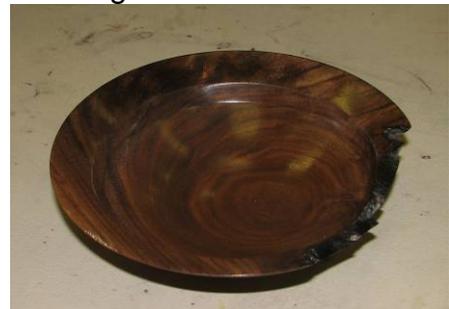
**Al Falck** brought in three pieces turned from a **Parallam® Beam**. It is not for the faint at heart.



**Jack Stumph** brought in a nicely turned maple baby rattle finished with mineral oil that is destined for his new grand child. Very nice!



**Cal Elshoff** brought in three new pieces. The first was a natural edge walnut bowl.



The next one was a beautiful maple burl platter that is destined for an unnamed Long Island collector.



The third item was an 11 inch black acacia bowl.



**Terrell Hasker** brought in six hollow boxes of various woods. He has had a lot of time during the writer's strike.



## PRESENTATION



This month's presentation was about Elliptical grinds for your gouges by **Pierre Mathieu**. He passed out a very comprehensive outline, complete with drawings that will be on

the website soon. This will certainly help those turners among us who wanted to know more about tool grinding. This presentation was all about the jigs, jigs, jigs. As it should be. Unless you are a very accomplished wood turner you should not use freehand sharpening. The pros make it look easy but they have many years of experience. Tool sharpening and grinding is all about repeatability, accuracy, consistency and efficiency. So you should either buy a system for sharpening, like the One Way Wolverine®, or make your own jigs and fixtures like Pierre did. Pierre also spent time explaining some tool terminology which was very helpful and he spoke about the types of grinders and/or sharpening systems on the market. He described in detail what the fingernail grind looks like mathematically for all of you rocket scientists and other type A's. But as a regular gal there was information for me too. I leaned to stick to my Wolverine®, system and let the pros freehand it and let Pierre develop new jigs and systems. So Pierre I'm waiting for you to make that "better mousetrap" so I can buy your system. Thanks and keep at it.

## 2008 CALENDAR

### Meetings:

April 13, '08

May 4, '08

June 8, '08

### Demonstrations:

May 3, '08- Stuart Batty

## CONTACTS

### GWG mailing address:

Glendale Woodturners Guild

11001 Canby Avenue

Northridge, Ca. 91326

GWG web site:

<http://www.woodturners.org>

*President:* Carey Caires

(h) (818) 760-2210

[cecaires@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cecaires@sbcglobal.net)

*Vice President:* Frank Guarino

(h) (818) 352-3925

[fdguarino@yahoo.com](mailto:fdguarino@yahoo.com)

*Treasure:* Bob DeVoe

(h) (818) 507-9331

*Secretary:* Al Sobel

[alsobel@verizon.net](mailto:alsobel@verizon.net)

(h) (818) 360-5437

Editor Newsletter: Amy Earhart

(h) (562) 463-7877

[smtgextra@gte.net](mailto:smtgextra@gte.net)

Librarian: Deb Sigel

(h) (518) 225-4677

[aerosquirrel@gmail.com](mailto:aerosquirrel@gmail.com)

## SUNDAY DEMONSTRATION

Jimmy Clewes gave a terrific demonstration for us on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> of February. It took many of us a little while to get use to his non California accent and expressions but he was very entertaining and informative.

Here he is turning the first part of his oriental box.

“Speed is essential”, he said and with this block of

sycamore whirling around at the top speed of this lathe (2750rpm) it sounded like a propeller on an airplane!

And how refreshing to hear Jimmy say “anything I say is my way, not just the only way.” So many demonstrators want you to think just the opposite! He was candid in his opinions of tools and techniques.

“Woodturning does not have to be practical or utilitarian.” “How it feels is just as important as how it looks. You can’t get it too smooth.” “The Oneway screw chuck is the best on the market.” His work speaks volumes.



Here is the oriental box he turned that will be in our Christmas auction. And here he is with the long stemmed goblet and the dyed platter that will also be in the auction. All are “dead boney” as Jimmy would say.



## FINISHING THOUGHTS

**Ultimate bragging rights: Your shop in a national magazine**

Do you have the kind of shop other woodworkers like to visit? Is your shop filled with clever ideas that help you work smarter, faster, or safer? Have you designed and built special tool racks, machine bases, cabinets, jigs, or other shop helpers you think your fellow woodworkers would find interesting? If so, the editors at **WOOD Magazine** invite you to submit your workshop or individual shop projects for review for possible publication in future editions of *America's Best Home Workshops*. Your shop doesn't have to be big or nit-picky clean. The ideas could be storage solutions, task-specific jigs, shop tips, or the special way you designed, built, and outfitted your shop. To submit your shop visit [www.woodmagazine.com/homeshops](http://www.woodmagazine.com/homeshops)