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# SKEWED

**Journal of the Glendale Woodturners Guild**

Volume 19, Number 4 – April 2010

## NEXT MEETING

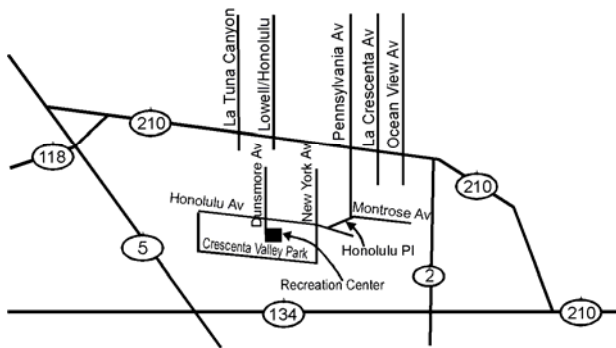
*April 11, 2010*

Sunday April 11, 2010

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.

**April 11, 2010**

**Presentation: Multi center turnings-The female form- Pete Carta**

**Challenge: *Animals-Real or imagined***

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



We had a full house and a nice sunny day for our March meeting. We welcomed three new members. **Jim O'Connor** broke in our new club lathe with his excellent spherical box demo the Saturday before the meeting. He had some time left after finishing the box so he

showed us an off center decorative technique on a round ball al la **Christian Burchard**. He also had an in depth handout with color pictures. **Craig Sobel** will put it on the website. Thanks **Jim**. We had a decent showing for the segmented challenge. I know it was a tough one, congratulations to the winners! Next months challenge is animals, real or imaginary. VP **Erleen Ahrens** wants us to get really creative and everyone enter a piece. **Don Comer** gave us a terrific talk on getting a gallery quality finish. Getting it right does take some time but when you look at **Don's** work it is worth it. He also had a handout that will go on the website. **Don** is also going to donate the book *Understanding Wood Finishing* by **Bob Flexner** to the GWG library. This was a book that he got a lot of good information from. Thanks **Don**. I shipped **Oscar Harris's** retirement gifts to him after last months meeting. When they arrived a few days later I got a phone call from him, he was so surprised he said we almost made him cry. His wife **Jean** cleared off their entry table to display them on. Along with a mini hat that **Steve Dunn** had given

him a while back. That way everybody who comes into his house can see them. Enjoy the turnings **Oscar**, you deserve it! Along with all of the wood that **Floyd Pedersen** brought in for the raffle **Joyce Burton** brought in some Eucalyptus and **Rod Sherman** donated a bunch of Curly Maple and Olive. Thanks to everyone who donated wood it helps make money for the club so we don't have to charge dues. **Bill Loitz** volunteered to host **David Ellsworth** for our demo on September 25<sup>th</sup>. He is also hosting **Eli Avisera** who will be doing a demo for us on August 8<sup>th</sup> which is normally our meeting day, so I will change the day of the meeting. **Bill** also hosted **Malcolm Tibbetts** for one of the nights that he was here so Bill is hosting all three of our pro demonstrators this year. I think that is a record, thanks **Bill**. Once again **Craft Supply** sent us a generous supply of gift certificates. (We will use them for prizes for the monthly challenges.) They also sent some catalogs for new members. If you are a new member you will want to get on their e-mail and mailing list. They have club member only specials; everything a wood turner's heart could desire and then some. Their website is:

<http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com> . Everyone bring lots of pieces for show and tell next month. We all love to see what everybody is making.

Happy turning. **Queen Carey**

## CHALLENGE

The turnout for the challenge was better than the previous month but there were no entries in the beginner category. I was really not surprised at this as segmented turning can be a bit intimidating for a beginner. So in the Intermediate category we had two entries. The first was from **Kathy Heins** with her Walnut and Maple segmented bowl.



And the winner in the category was **Craig Sobel** with his 1266 piece segmented pot of Maple, Bloodwood and Mahogany with a Tung oil finish.



In the Advanced category **Paul Schmit** brought in a segmented pitcher of Walnut and Oak with a lacquer finish.



Our VP **Earleen Ahrens** brought in two entries. The first was a small bowl with multiple colored woods. The second was a bowl that was started in the workshop with **Malcolm Tibbetts** in January that was segments of Walnut and Maple. Both were finished with Briwax.



**Queen Carey Caires** brought in a mini martini goblet with segments of Bloodwood, Maple and Ebony that was finished with Mylands. The piece was another of Carey's wonderful miniatures that was less than 1 inch high!



## SHOW AND TELL

**Floyd Pedersen** brought in a segmented Buckeye vase that the judges thought was quite unusual. It had a Poly finish.



There was also a good turnout for show and tell this month. We lead off with **Paul Schmit** who brought in two of his latest efforts. The first was a 20 inch platter turned from Carob. The second was a 6 inch bowl in Eucalyptus with dyed Alabaster used to fill the voids.



**Pete Carta** brought in a maple and Walnut segmented bowl that was inspired from the **Malcolm Tibbetts** workshop. It had a lacquer finish.



**Bob Ricard** brought in two pens of mixed exotic woods that were segmented. Both had Mylands sealer and friction polish.



**Jude Aten** brought in an interesting Purpleheart ring that he turned. It had a light French Polish finish.



**Pete Carta** brought in three new pieces. The first was a Square edge bowl out of Carob with a wipe on Poly finish that he probably will not do again. The second was a Pepper Vase about 5 inches tall with a lacquer finish. And the third was a nice little hollow form about 4 inches high out of Ash.

The winner was **Don Comer** with his wonderful Maple and Walnut scalloped bowl. He also brought in a Rock Maple segmented vase. Both were finished with lacquer. Congratulations Don.



New member **Eileen Duffy** brought in several examples of what she has been doing. She comes to us from her most recent home in the Virgin Islands. She is now a Valley girl and it looks like she has a bit of experience with wood turning. The first three boxes are from her "All Buttoned Up" series. And the other two were lovely finial boxes, Very nice!



**Bill Haskell** brought in another of his hollow forms with a carved ribbon design that was also textured and stained. It was out of a piece of Carob from **Bob DeVoes'** Glendale neighborhood. Bill presented it to Bob for all of his years of support of our Guild.



## CONTACTS

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## 2010 CALENDAR

### Meetings:

May 16  
June 13  
July 11  
August 15  
September 12  
October 10  
November 14  
December 12

### Challenges:

May – Boxes- all forms  
June – Multi-center turnings  
July – Hollow Forms  
August – Block in a bag  
September – Spirals  
October – Gift items you have made  
November – Alternative materials  
December – Holiday Party/ Auction

### Presentations-

May- **Design for woodturning- Tex Isham**  
June- **Workshop-Set-up & tools- Carl Christensen**  
July- **Spirals-3 start decreasing ribbon twist -Terrell Hasker & Don Comer**  
August- **Wood cutting & identification -Steve Dunn**

**September- Gifts for the holidays & throughout the year -**

**PJ Hays & Amy Earhart**

**October- Acrylic turning- Scott Connors**

**November- Round Ball Contest**

## PRESENTATION

We had another very informative presentation from one of our members this month. This one was from former Guild President **Don Comer**.



Don has been turning for many years and is widely collected. He is a Guild mentor for face work, basic turning and segmented work. His presentation “The Importance of Finishes (Plus a bunch of other

stuff)” was jam packed with lots of great information! If you missed the meeting you can see his 5 page handout on the website. Don has had pieces in galleries and knows what a “gallery finish” is. He understands why this makes his work stand out. You can have a beautifully turned and executed piece but without a really fine finish you will not get top dollar if you are selling your work nor will you be in “demand” at the top galleries. Don went over six reasons to apply a finish. They are 1) Color 2) Figure 3) Texture 4) Sheen 5) Protection and 6) Distortion. There were eight characteristics of common finishes and they are 1) Wax finishing products 2) Oil finishes 3) Shellac 4) Lacquer 5) Varnish 6) Wiping varnishes 7) Water based finishes and 8) Super glues (Cyanoacrylate adhesive, CA). Then he went on to explain his method for applying a finish to his own turnings. Then he finished up with a comparison chart of the commonly used finishes. It was a jam packed talk and there were plenty of questions and thoughtful answers. I know I had some of my own questions answered that I had not voiced before. And the best part is that we have Don among us almost every month and he will answer even more of our questions.

## Saturday Demonstration

This has turned out to be past Presidents month as far as our education goes. On March 13<sup>th</sup> we

had former Guild President **Jim O’Connor** give us a half day demonstration on the “Making of a spherical box”. Jim had a great six page step by step color handout. He had lots of visual aids that he passed around to our crowd of 27 people. Jim started out with a nice square piece of Bubinga and got almost halfway through the demo when it “blew up”. He hardly missed a beat and just picked up another piece of wood he had



prepared and got right back to turning. In the meantime we picked up the pieces and passed them around so we could all share the experience. It was another teaching aid. Jim said he prefers the exotic woods for these boxes. Woods like Cocobolo, Burmese Blackwood and Bubinga. He has less tear out and can get them thinner and therefore lighter.



It was a great three hours and with instructions this clear I bet we see a few spherical boxes from our members.

## FINISHING THOUGHTS

Welcome to new members **Eileen Duffy, Ed Grell** and **Terry Mendelson**. Please note that our August meeting date has changed to **August 15<sup>th</sup>**. We will be having **Eli Avisera** demonstrate for us on August 8<sup>th</sup>. If you want to see more about Eli then you can start at his web site at: <http://www.avisera.co.il/content/default1.asp>

Thanks to **Frank Kopecky, Jim Givens, Al Miller, Pierre Mathieu, PJ Hays** and **Queen Carey**. They demoed at **Rockler** in Pasadena on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup>. They also graciously allowed me to join them.