



# SLIGHTLY

# SKEWED

## Journal of the Glendale Woodturners Guild

Volume 19, Number 9 – September 2010

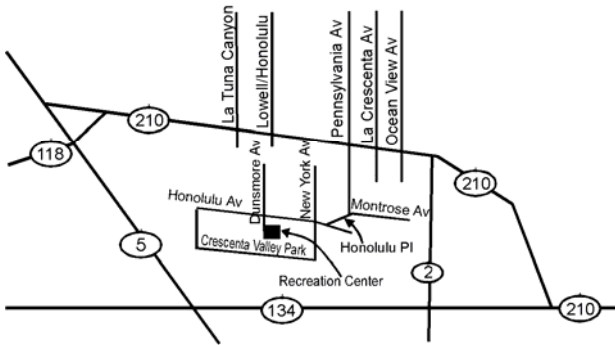
### NEXT MEETING

*September 12, 2010*

Sunday September 12, 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.

**September 12, 2010**

**Presentation: Gifts for the holidays and throughout the year- PJ Hays & Amy Earhart**

**Challenge: Block in a bag**

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We had a bit smaller crowd than usual for our August meeting, understandable because it was the third Sunday and lots of members are on vacation. The rest of us braved the very warm day. We didn't have any new members but we did have a visiting woodturner from Australia, **Lloyd**. He told me that his meetings go from 10am until 4pm each month! He let me sweet talk him into helping **Floyd Pedersen** judge the challenge. There was a pretty light showing for the spiral challenge. Most of the entries in the advanced category and once again we had to bump up poor **Sandy Huse** from the intermediate category because she was the only entry. Next month is the same size block with extras challenge VP **Earleen Ahrens** gave out about 35 blocks so I expect to see at least that many entries next month. I know Sandy would love some competition in her category. The presentation was tips, jigs and fixtures; thanks to all of the members who brought in something to share with us. The Kiwanis is having their annual equestrian completion for special athletes on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Last year we donated turnings for their raffle and silent auction and they have asked us to sponsor them once again. Thanks to the nine members who are going to donate a turning. If you would like to donate a piece then bring it to the September meeting. Thanks to **Sandy Huse** for taking over Librarian duty while **Deb Sigel** was out attending various friends'



weddings. **Deb** is starting a youth program to teach kids hands on skills such as wood working, wood turning, using various power tools, etc. Since so many schools have cut their wood shop classes there is a definite need. She asked us to come down and teach the kids wood turning one day. I will let you know more as it develops. We had an excellent demo last week by **Eli Avisera**; he had loads of great tips. We are going to be getting some of his DVD's for our library. On Sunday September 26<sup>th</sup> we will have **David Ellsworth** for an all day demo. You can still sign up at the September meeting. Congratulations to **Robert Manning, Al Miller** and **Bill Haskell** they all won ribbons at the San Diego and Orange county fairs. It was **Paul Schmit's** birthday and his wife **Mina** and daughter surprised him with a cake at our break. We all sang happy birthday and enjoyed a really yummy cake. **Bill Haskell** told us a little about the AAW resolution with **Mary Lacer**. There are many AAW members who are checking in to the legalities of the actions of the AAW board. It is election time for new board members so be sure and find out about the candidates and vote. In the meantime see you next month. Happy turning, Queen Carey

## CHALLENGE

We had a light turnout for the challenge this month and there were no beginners who entered although that does not surprise me. The challenge was spirals after last months' presentation by **Terrell Hasker**. We had one intermediate that was moved into the advanced category by default. So we started off with **Sandy Huse** and her Basswood bowl with it's burned in spiral pattern with a walnut oil finish.



Next was **Queen Carey Caires** with her mini goblet with the double twist stem turned from Olive with a Mylands finish. This piece was almost two inches tall and so was larger than



we are used to coming from Carey!

**Terrell Hasker** brought in the triple start diminishing ribbon twist walking stick that he presented on last month. It was turned and carved from Padouk, Ebony and had a brass tip. It has an oil finish.



**Paul Schmit** brought in a Carob winged bowl with spiral carving. He used Tung Oil as a finish.



**Al Miller** brought in two pieces. The first was a Jacaranda hollow vessel that he carved and colored.



And the winner in the category was **Al's** second piece of Maple and Black Acacia. It was a beautiful finial box that was held up by a turned and carved spiral stand. It had a Tung oil, varnish and wax finish.



# SHOW AND TELL

**Deb Sigel** brought in a several things that she has been working on lately. The first was a turned and carved goblet that she is still working on. And a bamboo Mezuzah with an Asian influence.



She also had a Challah platter of Alder and Oak.



**Floyd Pedersen** brought in three different bowls and a cowboy hat. The first two were segmented bowls of Walnut and Maple and various woods.



The third bowl was turned from Alder with a sprayed on paint/stone finish. Now here is a way to jazz up a plain bowl or a bad sanding job!



And his latest cowboy hat was turned from Ash. Unfortunately for me it was not my size. All of the pieces had wipe on finishes.



**Jim O'Connor** brought in an Elm hollow vessel with a lacquer and wax finish.



**Bill Loitz** brought in a Jacaranda platter.



**Craig Sobel** brought in another of his inspiring segmented vessels. This one was made up of Cherry, Walnut, Purpleheart, Padauk and Maple.



**Paul Schmit** brought in a nice hollow form turned from Carob and Sycamore. Both woods were dyed and the piece has a tung oil finish.



And **Jim O'Connor** brought in two birds that he turned after seeing **Eli Avisera** demonstrate the technique the week before our meeting. It was another nice gift idea.



**Bill Haskell** gets the “busy turner” award this month. He brought in two hollow forms and a batch of six pencil holders, beautiful and practical as well. The first hollow form is about 11” x 6” and is Spalted Maple. The second form had a carved opening and was turned from a piece of Box Elder Burl. Both had a CA and lacquer finish.



The pencil holders were turned from scrap pieces of Carob, Olive and Sheoak all had a lacquer finish.



## CONTACTS

**GWG mailing address:**

Glendale Woodturners Guild  
11001 Canby Avenue  
Porter Ranch, Ca. 91326

**GWG web site:**

<http://www.woodturners.org>

**President:** Carey Caires

(h) (818) 760-2210

[president@woodturners.org](mailto:president@woodturners.org)

**Vice President:** Erleen Ahrens

(h) (310)451-2878

[vp@woodturners.org](mailto:vp@woodturners.org)

**Treasure:** Bob DeVoe

(h) (818) 507-9331

**Secretary:** Al Sobel

[secretary@woodturners.org](mailto:secretary@woodturners.org)

(h) (818) 360-5437

**Editor Newsletter:** Amy Earhart

(h) (562) 463-7877

[editor@woodturners.org](mailto:editor@woodturners.org)

## 2010 CALENDAR

### Meetings:

October 10  
November 14  
December 12

### Challenges:

October – Gift items you have made  
November – Alternative materials  
December – Holiday Party/ Auction

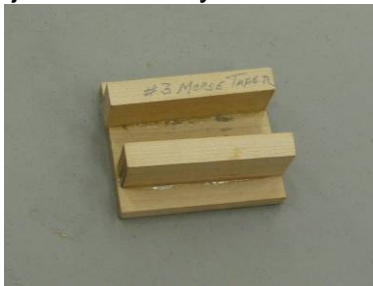
### Presentations-

October- **Acrylic turning- Scott Connors**  
November- **Round Ball Contest**

## PRESENTATION

The presentation this month was jigs, tips and fixtures from guild members. **Queen Carey** offered up the tip that *Swiffer* cloths remove dust from safety glasses, work lights and face shields. And if you have one of those sand paper dispensers with multiple rolls and it has rolled back in the box then get out that wonderfully useful tool the butter knife and fish that end out. So now that knife is not just used for your favorite

spread or as a screwdriver. **Dick Lukes** showed a simple Morse taper jig. He also reminded us to use a clean paper towel or cloth to wipe pieces in between sanding grits. And that jar lid gripper in your kitchen can be used to help get that chuck



off the spindle. **Jim Grell** showed us his off center jig for the router. **Terrell Hasker** pushed the advantages of wet suit material and plexi glass as an inexpensive jig material. **Paul Schmit** gave us a new use for an old shoe box; crush up alabaster for inlay in the box and then



crush up alabaster for inlay in the box and then

gently shake the box to separate the pieces from larger to smaller bits. **Pierre Mathieu** showed us his shop made jig for grinding the gouge.

## Sunday Demonstration

Anyone who doesn't think they got their moneys



worth from this demo must be crazy. Eli Avisera, who hails from Israel, gave us a jam packed program that started off with tool sharpening and then went into turning a simple bird using the skew, in all he turned seven different items during the day. He also reminded us about

several different basics:

1) sharp tools 2) using body position to align the tool 3) rubbing the bevel and 4) fully support the tool. Also we need to remember



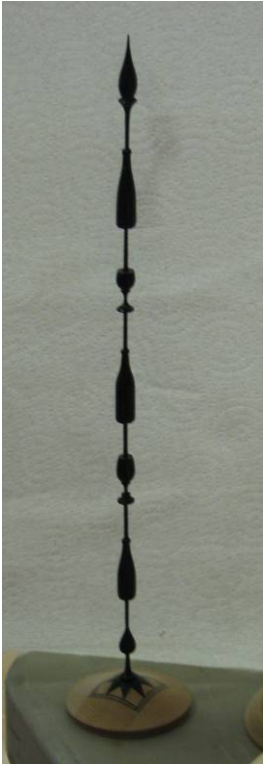
that the skew chisel position is always above center with the tool rest. While turning a two part candle stick he demonstrated the use and helpfulness of using templates. These really come in handy when you want to turn a pair of candle sticks. Then he talked about the "Eli finish" which is simply 20% bees wax and 80% mineral oil. I think there will be a few of us who will be making some of that. Next was a lidded box that was



anything but ordinary. After making the box bottom and lid he used black acrylic paint on the lid, let it dry and then with it in the jaws of the chuck he pulled it slightly off center and with the skew put the

decoration in the top. Next was a platter where the lesson was supporting the wood fibers during the cut. His method was a pull cut across the face and then a push cut back across. The platter outside had a nice ogee shape and the inside had a wide rim left for future surface decoration. Then on to the simple square that started out as  $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick x 3" x 3" wide. After hollowing to a simple

concave shape he sanded with the lathe off so as not to mess up the corners. Then it was also painted with black acrylic. The tip here was to wet sand with your last grit to raise the wood fibers before you add the paint. Then with it in the jaws of the chuck he pulled it slightly off center four times and with the skew put two cuts in the top each time. Next to last was what Eli called "thin and long". Basically a long spindle turning with 7 different shapes. His finished work was: drip, bottle, goblet, bottle, goblet, bottle, drip. This was achieved by holding the stock in the jaws, turning an element, sanding it and finishing it and then pulling out the next 2-3 inches and turning the next element, etc. The last item was a spinning top/box turned out of hard maple that was 2" x 2" x 4" long. He used a chatter tool and texturing tools to decorate the top and used color pens to accent different bands of decoration. He then turned the box and fitted the



top into it as the lid! After the demo he pulled out several examples of his finished work that have been completed recently.



If you want to purchase Eli Avisera tools or DVD's then here is the web site.

<http://www.canyonstudios.org/default.htm>

## FINISHING THOUGHTS

Thanks again to **Jim Hurst** for some of the photos from the general meeting. And thanks also to **Dick Lukes** who took photos at the **Eli Avisera** demo. We are talking about having an "embellish your work" workshop before the end of the year so be thinking about that and let Queen Carey know if you are interested. We are also considering UK turner **David Springett** as a demonstrator for next year. He is the author of several wood turning books including *Woodturning Wizardry*.

If you are an AAW member do not forget to get your ballot in the mail to elect two people to the board of directors. They need to be postmarked by October 21, 2010. **John Ellis** has withdrawn his candidacy for Board Director but there are still five other candidates to choose from.

The Orange County Woodworkers Association is pleased to present a two day woodworking seminar with David Marks on October 23-24, 2010.

**Call/email: Craig Chambers (714) 826-6487**  
[ocwoodworkers@gmail.com](mailto:ocwoodworkers@gmail.com)

Here are a couple of more photos from the **Eli Avisera** demo.



## DAVID ELLSWORTH DEMO

Sunday September 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 am until approximately 4:30 pm **David Ellsworth** will be demonstrating for us at the park. The cost will either be \$30 or \$35, as of this time we are not sure of the final cost. This does include donuts, juice and coffee in the morning and lunch in the afternoon so plan on joining us.



**David** has been turning for many years and was around at the beginning of the AAW. His web site is:

<http://www.ellsworthstudios.com/>