



Slightly *Skewed*

Volume 11, Number 1-- February 2003

Next Meeting:

February 9th, 2003
Sunday, 2:00 p.m. Sharp at Crescenta Valley
Regional Park Recreation Center.

Presentation:

Mick Sears, "Wood Characteristics
for Woodturners"

Challenge:

Best Quality Finish. Piece must be at least 3"
diameter.

Professional Demonstration:

Alan Lacer — February 22nd, 2003
Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Sharp at Crescenta Valley
Regional Park Recreation Center.



Ray Ford's beautiful filigreed square edge bowl. The filigree cut-outs were done with a simple Dremel rotary tool.

President's Column

By Don Comer

Bob DeVoe got the January meeting off to a good start by telling us we made money in 2002. Our income exceeded our expenses by about \$1770. I won't bore you with a lot of details but the main moneymaker was the auction, followed by the monthly raffle. Our professional demos made a lot of money but they also cost us a lot. We're going to keep doing them because of their popularity. Our member demos are our "loss leaders", as the retail folks say, but they are popular too, so we'll keep doing those. Bob keeps telling us that if anyone wants to look at the books they're welcome to come over to his house and do so.

Last November, we conducted a survey in an attempt to find out how happy our members were with how the club is running and how we should change if they're not. I'm biased, but I think the survey pretty much said, "Hold the course!". Demos, Presentations and Workshops were the most popular, in that order, followed closely by Show and Tell. Challenges were decidedly less popular, which led us to make some rule changes. Participation in trade shows was least popular so we will not be doing that this year. However, we are going to participate in the Brand Library Exhibit of GWG turnings. This is a low-effort way for us to gain recognition for all of us and, perhaps sell a few pieces. Earleen Ahrens will be telling us more on that later. A separate hand count showed enthusiasm for our special challenges, so you'll be seeing same-size blocks, tagua nuts, round balls and spinning tops in the meetings, if we can fit them into our busy schedule. We haven't been able to get any dancing girl volunteers as was suggested (Or dancing boys, either. Sorry, Cathy), so some of us will be disappointed.

We had a Board meeting the day before the meeting, and in order to increase participation and, hopefully, enjoyment of our members, we made several changes in how we do business. We made a bunch of rule changes for the Challenges and one each for the Raffle and Show and Tell. Those are spelled out in detail in a separate box.

Dan gave us a preview of upcoming activities in 2003. The AAW Symposium in June has made life a little more difficult for him but I think he's doing his usual excellent job in setting up a program for us

Earleen made another appeal for all of us to participate in GWG's Brand Library Exhibit. The majority of our active members voted to do this show and I'm sure we don't want it to appear to be a half hearted effort.

Dan Hogan and Bill Haskell gave us a status report on the Project Hollywood Chapter Challenge for the AAW Symposium. Things seem to be going along good and its going to be an impressive piece of workmanship when finished.

Bill Kelly said he has arranged dates for GWG members to sail on the new brigantines. They're beau-

tiful boats and I can hardly wait to go.

I gave a presentation on my approach to finishing turnings. The handout will appear on our website (maybe it already has by the time you get this). If you need a hard copy, let me know, I have a few extras. Finishing is not a cut and dried science, but I hope the suggestions I made in the handout will be helpful to you. By the way, Dan scheduled a Finishing Challenge for the February 9 meeting; just to see if you were paying attention.

See you at the February 9th. meeting, Don

New Challenge and Demonstration Rules for 2003

By Don Comer & Dan Hogan

The following rules will apply to all GWG Challenges unless special circumstances apply. Any changes will be announced before the event.

- There shall be three classes: Novice, Intermediate and Advanced.
- All GWG members who have not won any Challenge award can compete in the Novice class.
- Members who have won one or two awards will be placed in the Intermediate class.
- Members who have won three or more awards will be placed in the Advanced class.
- Enforcement of these rules will be on the honor system. The club will not keep records for this purpose.
- There will be no minimum limit on the number of entries to comprise a valid Challenge. In other words, a

Challenge class with only one entry will be judged a valid challenge and the first place award will be given to that lone entry.

- First place prizes for each class will be \$25 gift certificates. Additional prizes will be awarded as appropriate.
- Any additional rules or special variations will be published in the newsletter.

The following rules and fees shall apply to all GWG Demonstrations until further notice.

For professional demonstrations:

- Entry fee shall be \$15 for GWG members who have pre-registered.
- Attendees who have not registered beforehand (Walk-ins) shall pay \$20.

- Lunch will be included for all paid attendees
- Anyone wishing to take videos must personally get permission from the demonstrator.

For Non-professional Demonstrators:

- No fees will be charged
- Refreshments will be furnished at GWG expense.
- No lunch will be served.
- Pre-registration is strongly urged to permit reasonable planning for the refreshments.



Calendar 2003

Sunday Meetings & Presentations

All meetings are held at the Crescenta Valley Regional Park Recreation Center and start at 2 p.m. sharp

Note that the meetings are generally on the second Sunday of the month except for the May and June meetings which will be held a week earlier than normal to avoid conflicts with Mother's day and the Sleepy Hollow Carver's Annual Show.

Mick Sears' presentation at the 9Feb meeting will focus on wood characteristics of interest to woodturners from the point of view of wood anatomy, tree growth, various wood patterns, and tree growth responses. Mick will explain how these natural features affect wood quality, color, grain, and other physical characteristics, as well as turning and finishing properties.

- February 9th - Mick Sears, "Wood Characteristics for Woodturners"
- March 9th - Bill Nelson, "What You Need To Know about Sanding and Sandpaper"
- April 13th - Joe Larson, "Integration of Carving and Turning Techniques"
- May 4th - Linda Emery, "Humor in Turning"
- June - To be determined. With the AAW Symposium looming, the June presentation may be minimal.
- July 13 - (Presentation not set at this time)
- August 10 - (Presentation not set at this time)
- September 14 - (Presentation not set at this time)
- October 12 - (Presentation not set at this time)
- November 8 - (Presentation not set at this time)
- December 14 - (Presentation not set at this time)

Challenges

(See new rules & prizes for Challenges on Page 2)

- February 9th - Best Quality Finish. Piece must be at least 3" diameter.
- March 9th - Hollow Vessels (anticipating GWG's upcoming Exhibition at the Brand Library)
- April 9th - Best Quality Tool Finish on a Turned Item. Piece must be at least 3" diameter.

Demonstrations

(on Saturdays starting at 9 a.m. Sharp)

- February 22nd - Alan Lacer
- March 15th - Bob DeVoe, Tool Sharpening Workshop
- April 19th - Basic Faceplate Turning Workshop
- May 17th - Graeme Priddle (from New Zealand)
- June - No demo (AAW Symposium)
- July 19th - Art Fitzpatrick
- August 16th - Linda Van Gehuchten (from Pennsylvania)
- September 20th - Lyle Jamieson
- October 11th - Michael Lee (from Hawaii)



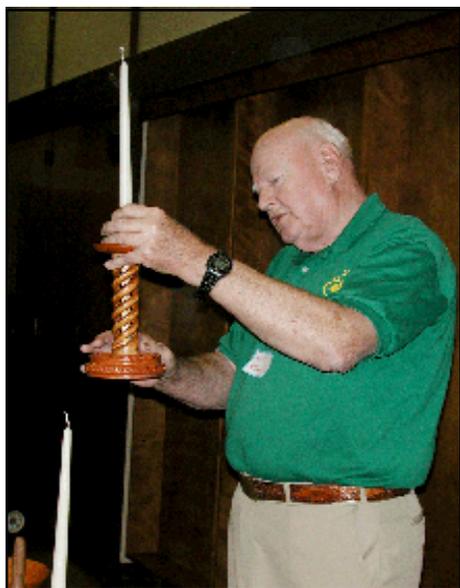
A pretty example of Alan Lacer's work. Come see how he turns limp spaghetti into goblet stems on February 22nd.

Show and Tell

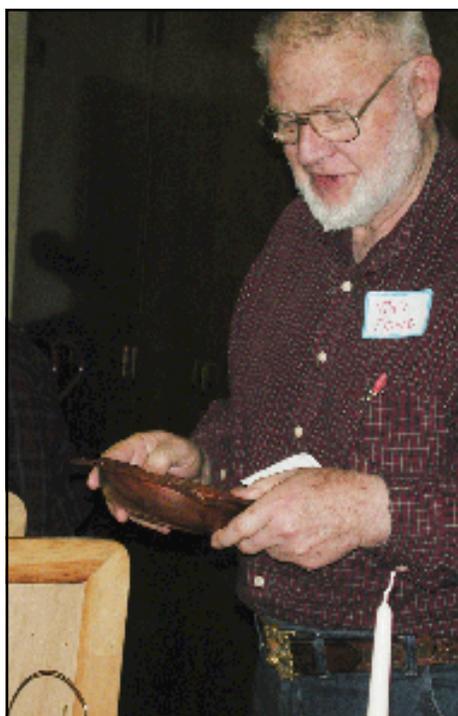
Bob Stumbo submitted three items to Show & Tell this month, a scalloped box of Citrus, a volcano bowl of Madrona Burl, and a ball box of Shedug wood from Africa. All were simply buffed to show off the natural beauty of the wood.

Bill Noble submitted a vase of ash that was finished in tung oil with some painted decoration.

Terrell Hasker submitted several items including a wax finished mallet of Chinese elm, two bowls of Sycamore that were unfinished, and a Sycamore ring.



Bill Kelly in his off watch hours constructed two goblets one of African Blackwood with a twisted stem, and one of Goncalo Alves, both finished in lacquer. He is shown exhibiting his candle holder of Honduras Mahogany which he describes as having "triple barley open twist stretch pitch double center with a lacquer finish." Bill also brought a neat wheelhouse lamp. Turn the Mahogany spoked wheel to turn the light on and off. (See Page 4)



Ray Ford (*above*) submitted three items. His beautiful filigreed square edge bowl is featured on the first page. His other two pieces were a square bowl of Goncalo Alves and a compote turned from Shedua.

Carl exhibited a beautiful burl walnut bowl turned from his private stock and two other bowls of walnut and mahogany.

Cal Elshoff showed a 9" Padauk candy dish finished in lacquer.

Anna Burton showed three items, a candy dish with a single barley twist stem turned from Birdseye and Quilted Maple finished in lacquer, and a decorated bowl from South American Locust. Her third item she called simply a maple and ash "learning exercise"

Amos Thompson showed a peek-a-boo lady vase of peach wood. The lady was fashioned from hot Maple and Cedar (*above right*). He also

showed an 8" bowl finished in Deft and two top hats turned from Brazilian Pepper and Ash, also finished in Deft.



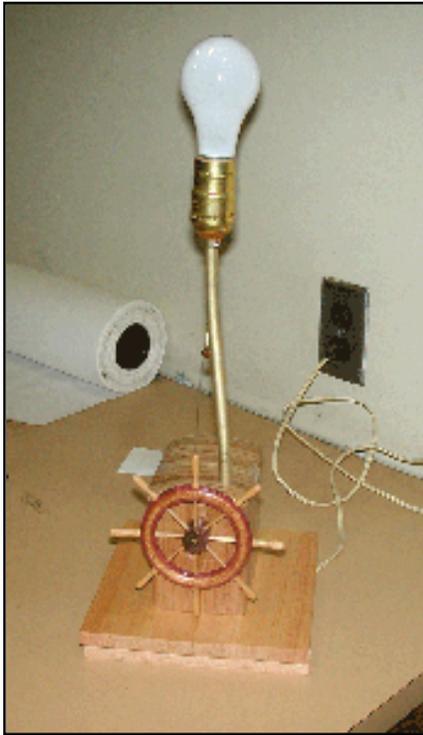
Carey Caires continued her foray into miniaturization with a bottle stopper shaped as a café table set with a bottle of wine, goblets and a corkscrew..

Jim O'Conner showed three items, a hat in ash, finished in Minwax, some Christmas ornaments in Walnut and Black Acacia and a bowl made from Oak and finished in tung oil.



Brigantines Report By Bill Kelly

Progress seems exceedingly slow as the myriad of small jobs continues. *Irving* is about a month ahead of *Exy*. The crew quarters are being painted and the galley cabinets have been installed. Much painting, both interior and exterior is underway. The height of the pin rails above deck has been increased for easier handling of the lines.



Sea trials of *Irving* will begin in February but a firm commissioning date has yet to be announced. The maiden voyage is scheduled for the week of May 1st.

Woodturner day sails are tentatively set for May 31st - June 1st, June 21st-22nd, and July 26th -27th. They will be confirmed later.

For Sale or Trade

Bond McGaffey, (818) 352-2498, has the following lathe tools for sale: All of these are for a 3/4" x 16 t.p.i. spindle. 12" tool rest with 7/8" shaft (\$10), 6" tool rest with 7/8" shaft (\$3), 6" 3-jaw chuck w/key (\$25), 6.5" 4-jaw chuck w/key (\$10), (4) face plates 4" dia. (\$1 each), line center #1 Morse taper (\$5), Mandrel, #1 Morse Taper, 7 mm (\$5), Head stock center, #1 Morse taper (\$2), 8" faceplate (\$10).

Contacts

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GWG Web site: <http://www.woodturners.org>
Pres. Don Comer (562) 928-4560; doncom2@aol.com
V.P. Dan Hogan: (805)495-1280;
hoganjill@aol.com

From the Editor's Desk

This year GWG has become much more beginner friendly. There are some obvious changes such as the new Challenge rules. In the Challenges, there is a beginner class. We beginners (and I'm as much a beginner as anyone) don't have to compete against the Comers and Haskells of the wood world. Undoubtedly, some lucky beginner will win a nice prize just for entering.

But of course we all want to get better and the way to do that is take advantage of all the great talent that is available. Even if you don't want to brag about your piece, put it on the Show and Tell table and ask some of the more experienced turners to give you some advice on how to make the next one better. Take advantage of the Mentors listed below. They've all agreed to spend a couple hours with any beginner to help help the beginner get started. All it takes is a phone call to make an appointment.

The club has done its best to give us a level playing field and great coaching. Now, who wants to play? CVS

GWG Mentors List

Goblet Rings & Spiral Work:

Bill Kelly, Rancho Palos Verdes -
(310) 541-1144

Hollow Vessels:

Bill Haskell, Placentia - (714) 528-4783

Kaleidoscopes:

Bob Coleberd, Granada Hills
(818) 368-3525

Lidded Boxes: Al Sobel, Northridge - (818) 360-5437

Pens: Wes Hall, Palmdale - (661) 947-9326

Segmented Work:

Don Comer, Downey - (562) 928-4560

Basic Turning Techniques:

Don Comer, Downey - (562) 928-4560
