

The Bayou Skew

The Bayou Woodturners' Newsletter

April 2001

Volume 03

Issue 04



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Bayou Woodturners
P.O. Box 231293
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123

Steve Rome - President
Keith Welsh - Vice President
Eddie Castelin - Treasurer
Dennis Wall - Secretary
Jerry Markowitz - Photographer
Charlie Kragle - Membership

From the Headstock

Spring is here and it's a great time for being out in the shop. The oppressive heat is still a little ways away. So take advantage of the nice weather while you can. This year has started out with some large turnouts at our meetings. It's been good to see so many people interested in our craft. I don't know if it's the location of the meetings or is it just that the word is getting out. Could it be this northshore connection? Either way, we are glad to see you in such numbers! We even made the local paper in Hammond last month as they covered our meeting! We got the good word on our application for an educational grant from the AAW. We will receive \$625.00 to be earmarked for our library. If anyone has a request for a special video, book or publication that you would like us to acquire, please contact me or one of our officers so that we may compile a list. Contacting us at Woodturners.com will also be a good way to hear from you. This gift should stock our shelves pretty well and we are most grateful to the AAW for this endowment. A special thanks goes out to Larry Zarra for crafting our request.

Eddie Castelin submitted and acquired a grant for Lyle Terrell, which will be used for a weeklong class at Arrowmont School in Tennessee. Way to go Eddie! .

We will beat the heat this year by making the April meeting our second annual cochon-du-lait at the estate of Dick and Julia Gahn. (Also know by some of us in the inner circle as SpamFest 2001.) Dick will be using his special custom lathe once again to turn a pig. I hope he doesn't try that

Next Meeting
10:00 AM
April 21, 2001

Dick Gahn's
21098 Shady lane
Covington, LA
(504) 893-7603

Directions & Map
on Page 4

On the Internet at: www.woodturners.com

From the Headstock continued from previous page

inside/outside turning technique with the pig. This event is opened to friends and family. We ask that you bring a dish and your own drinks. A canopy, chairs, and a couple of your favorite turnings are also suggested. We would like to display some of our work for the viewing pleasure of our guests. Dick has asked us to RSVP so that he may plan accordingly. His number is 504 893-7603. We are also putting the call out for the belt sander drag races, which were a real hit last year with everyone. Decorate and customize your machine and give it a personality. We had a few unique qualifiers last year. Just make sure they pass the fire code!

Remember, our May meeting will be at Dillard Ball's place in Gonzales and Steve Lagrue from Houston, Texas will be our special guest. Steve and his wife, Terri, own the Cutting Edge store. Steve will focus on coloring and texturing your work. This meeting/demo will be on Sunday (Mother's Day) due to his scheduling constraints. I hope you can accommodate this change from our routine, since Steve and Terri are driving all the way from Houston to see us. We promise to start and end early so that everyone can proceed with their Mother's Day plans. It does promise to be an informative demo.

Hope to see you at the Gahn's,

Steve Rome
President, Bayou Woodturners



Meeting Minutes

Our appreciation!

Thanks to the "Hammond Daily Star" who sent over a reporter, Kerry, to cover our meeting. We might actually get some ink in the local press.

Thanks to Pat Leach for hosting the meeting. We also extend our thanks to Jerry Markowitz for providing the refreshments, and our great photos. Thanks to Dick Gahn for hosting the PIG ROAST next month and to Dillard Ball for hosting the May meeting. We applaud Eddie Castelin for writing the grant that secured Lyle Terrell a scholarship to Arrowmont. And last but not least, we really appreciate Larry Zarra, Steve Rome, and Carolyn Rome for preparing a grant request to the AAW. Because of their hard work, the club will receive \$625.00 for books and videos for the club library. If you have any idea which books and/or videos you would like to see the club purchase, send in your suggestions.

Pig Roast

In 2001 the Pig will roast not the members! In order to avoid last year's collective near-heat stroke, we will hold our social at Dick Gahn's place in April. He will be doing the roast pig and fried turkeys again, and, like last time, everybody is asked to bring a covered dish, something to sit on, and something to drink. Events will include a belt sander race and a belt sander tug-o-war. There will be no formal meeting, no demonstration, and also, no auction. There will, however, be a show and tell. The festivities will begin about 10:00AM and we'll eat around noon. *To avoid any conflict with Easter, we're going to hold the event on the 21st of April (3rd Saturday -map page 4 -more info on page 9)*

President's Challenge

Take the JUNE BOX CHALLENGE. Our quarterly challenge for the June meeting will be boxes incorporating other materials along with the wood. Maximum size is 3" in diameter by 5" tall. Limit, three entries (more info on page 9).

Dues are Due

The Captain is Back at his duties as treasurer, We are all grateful that Ed Castelin has come through his bypass surgery and is well on the road to recovery. The deadline for yearly dues payment was in March. If you haven't paid, you won't be on the mailing list next month. Dues can be paid to Charlie Kragle, the Director of Membership (the DOM).

continued on page 3

For Sale

Powermatic 45
Completely refurbished.
12" X 36" 1" X 8 tpi 1 hp.
Mechanical Variable speed
Like new Condition \$750.00
Call: Rick Landry 482-5626

Meeting Minutes continued from previous page

Directory

Since he's been out sick, Ed has extended the deadline for business ads in the directory by month (more info on page 8).

Dillard is on the Ball!

Dillard Ball has been investigating the source his company uses, and it looks as if they can supply us with hats at a very reasonable cost - which we can then sell for \$15.00 or so and raise a little money for the club.

Our May meeting will be at Dillard Ball's place in Gonzales. *Since we're having a featured turner, we're going to shift the MAY MEETING date to Sunday May 13, 2001* to accommodate his schedule. Also *we're likely going to start the meeting an hour earlier, at 9:00AM* so it won't interfere with anyone's Mother's Day plans.

Steve LeGrue of "The Cutting Edge" in Houston has graciously agreed to demonstrate for us while he's in the area. The demo will be on surface decoration and will last about an hour. As an added incentive, Dillard will be offering free Sycamore.

Show and Tell:

Steve Rome: Several shop made sanding mandrills with a particularly long reach.

Keith Welsh: Shop-made wall thickness gauge, featuring a laser (no, the laser doesn't cut the wood); continuing his barbed wire series with a maple "Nightmare Filter, a sort of "Ojo de Diablo" or hula hoop from hell.

O.B. Lacoste: Elm hollow form with a large sapwood patch; pear-wood hollow form covered

with gold leaf; deer horn handled letter openers with banksia pod holder; several bottle stoppers, some with stone insets; one "morning after" bottle stopper, with a secret compartment for aspirin.

Jerry Moreau: Wet-turned oak goblet; maple and walnut goblet, both with captive rings and food-safe finish; a box of maple, and an assortment of oak and walnut pens.

Mike Wilensky: 2 tops incorporating CD's.

That's all for this month.

See you in April at the social.

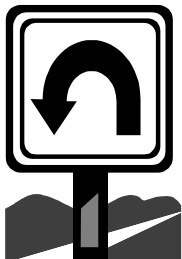
Laissez le bon temps rouler!

Dennis Wall

Secretary

**Treasurer's Report
By Eddie Castelin**

Beginning Balance:	\$3,033.21
Income: Dues	\$150.00
Raffle	\$60.00
Total	\$3,243.21
Disbursements:	
Refreshments	\$22.00
Postage	\$86.39
Other	\$0.00
Total	\$108.39
Balance - March 15, 2001	\$3,124.82



Turning Tips

Do the spouts on your CA glue bottles clog up? Mine do but I've found a solution to the problem. I toss the offending spout into a pickle jar filled with acetone where I have a dozen or so spouts, previously clogged, which have been cleaned by the acetone. I choose one with the proper opening and continue with my turning.

By Ron Alexander

Expedia.com Travel



Directions to Dick Gahn's House

From Causeway take Hwy 190 N to Covington

From Covington Take Hwy 21 N to Bogalousa for 2 miles

Turn Right on Louisiana ST

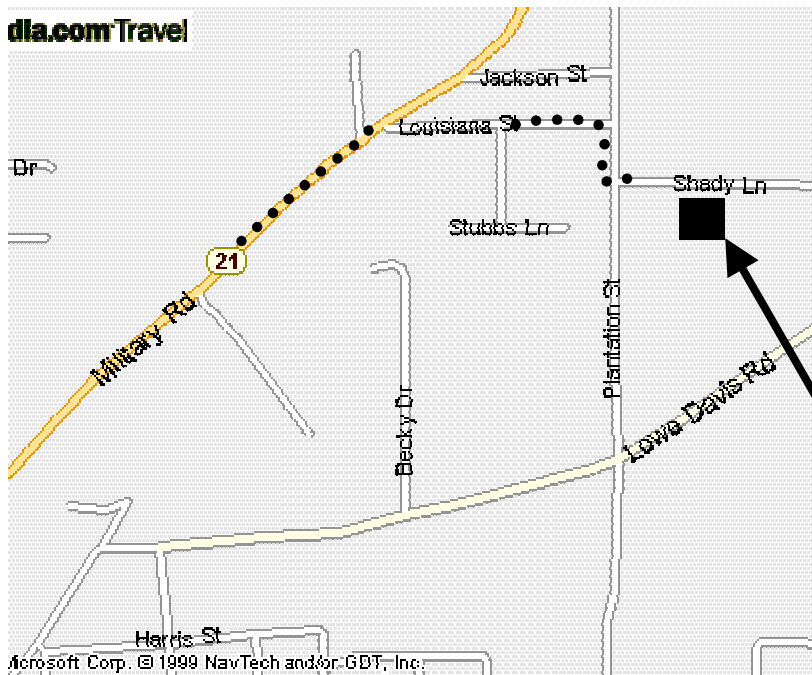
Turn Right on Plantation St

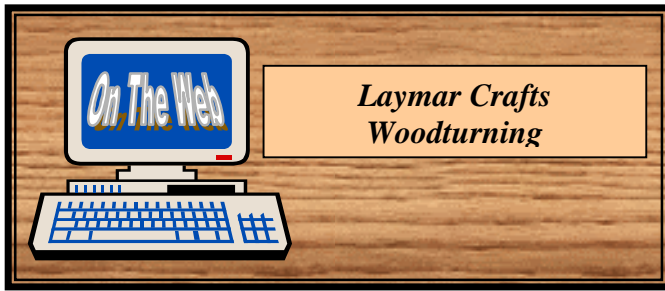
Turn Left on Shady Lane

Third House on Right

**21098 Shady Lane
(504) 893-7603**

dia.com Travel

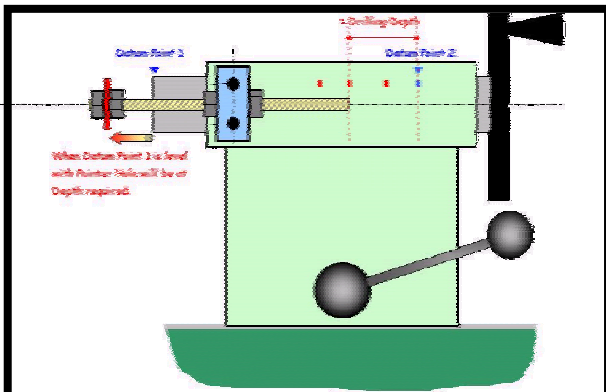




**Laymar Crafts
Woodturning**

This month we visit the *Laymar Crafts Woodturning* web site (www.laymar-crafts.com). This site offers a wealth of information based on Richard Stapley's 10+ years of woodturning. Richard has provided his personal reviews of a number of woodturning and wood related books along with his views, good and bad, on several popular wood magazines that have significant woodturning content. For each reviewed magazine, Richard includes a detail account of what was in a recent issue - both by number of pages and percent of total magazine. This includes number of total pages, amount of advertising, number of projects, number of features, techniques, etc. This will provide you with a good idea which magazine(s) give you your monies worth.

An extensive section is devoted to Hints and Tips. Included in this section are plans for a Drilling Depth Gauge for the Lathe Tailstock, A set of Lathe Tidies (platforms or trays to hold tools), Various uses of magnets in the workshop, etc. Check back frequently as more tips and hints are added the first week of each month.



Checkout Hints and Tips No. 7 for details on this Drilling Depth Gauge for the Lathe Tailstock.

Perhaps the best part of this site is the enormous number of links that are provided - over 860. The Links are divided into four main pages. Page one contains links related to Associations, Clubs&Guilds,

Galleries, General Woodturning, Magazines, E-Zines & other Publications. Page Two provides links to Segmented Turning, Specialty Woodturning, Timber, Timber Drying, Woodturning Hints and Tips, Woodturning History, Woodworking News groups, Page Three contains links to abrasives, Corian, Dust, Finishing, Safety Things to Make, and finally Page Four in mostly non-woodturning sites.

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In this column we will provide an index to the latest articles and tips found in the various wood working magazines that relate to turning. References marked with an asterisk are available from the Bayou Woodturners Library (see Denis Wall to check out)

- Turning Bowls from green Wood** FW Feb'01 No.147 pp48-53
- Jarrah march** Wt Feb'01 No. 96 pp14-17
- Show Stopper s** Wt Feb'01 No. 96 pp23-27
- Trail by Jury** Wt Feb'01 No. 96 pp32-33
- Finer Flutes** Wt Feb'01 No. 96 pp41-43
- Jewel of Box** Wt Feb'01 No. 96 pp53-56
- Clockwork** Wt Feb'01 No. 96 pp61-64

MW – More Woodturning
 FW – Fine Woodworking
 Wood – Wood Magazine
 AWt-American Woodturner
 Wt – Woodturning

From Murphy Law's

Law of Annoyance:

When working on a project, if you put away a tool that you are certain your're finished with, you will need it again instantly

Around the Clubs



This column provides a look into what other clubs around the country are doing; how they are organized, what their demonstrators are showing, and how they are promoting woodturning among their members and the public

Greater Vancouver Woodturners Guild

Club member Fred Holder gave a presentation on the making of Chinese balls.

Art Liestman, the club's president, applied for and received an \$800.00 grant from the AAW. It was applied to a two day one-on-one class with Jacques Vesery at his workshop in Maine.

North Carolina Woodturners

Don Oetjen demonstrated his methods for attaching feet to bowls and vessels. It was a great chance to learn a new technique for your tool bag.

Various club challenges have included: a representation of a bouquet. It could be any material they wished to represent. There was no limitation of any kind imposed on the imagination. They could provide the container, contents or both. The outstanding challenge for December was any Christmas item. It could be an ornament, decoration, toy or whatever. The only requirement was that a Christmas theme carry through.

For the new year, the challenge was to make something new, that you had never made before. It could be any form or type of turning which the member had not produced before. It can also be a new technique, such as coloring or carving on a familiar form.

Gorst Duplessis

Visit Ron Hampton's www.woodturningplus.com internet site and look under the " Superstars of Woodturning" section for a profile and numerous pictures of the outstanding ornamental turning of Bayou Woodturner's own Gorst Duplessis.

Bayou Woodturners

Corporate Sponsors

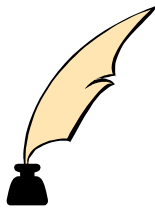
Acadian Hardwoods
#1 Industrial Parkway
Ponchatoula LA 70454
(504) 386-6079
(800) 489-6079

Southern Saw & Cutter Co. Inc.
5808 Plauche St.
Jefferson, LA 70123
(504) 736-6063
Fax: (504) 736-6064
(800) 229-6063

Gueydan Lumber & Plywood Inc.
4300 Airline Dr.
Metairie, LA 70123
(504) 833-2828

Riverside Lumber Co.
5451 Morrison Rd.
New Orleans, LA. 70126
(504) 242-6624

Featured Article



Sanding Secrets (Part Three)

By Woody McMartin

Most readers will by now be familiar with the method of power sanding turned work. As a means of producing a quick and professional finish, power sanding using either a disc or a drum can have little equal. The previous quantum leap in woodturning technology was the day the lathe was invented. Still though, I have some serious reservations regarding this technique. Not because of its efficiency. It is my opinion (not necessarily correct), that since the advent of this sanding method design has suffered somewhat. Bowls in particular appear to be designed around this technique, resulting in a sameness in appearance. Fine detail appears to be the innocent victim. Certainly a nice open bowl made from a nice piece of timber can be a joy to behold. It can also be made with comparatively low skill levels. A piece displaying fine detail and crisp design is a different kettle of fish however. It is my belief that sanding should be dealt with as an after thought, and in no way should impinge on the design process. Hopefully, your sanding skills will be sufficiently advanced to tackle any situation confidently. The purpose of this article is to assist in that process.

Having got that out of my system, I will detail my method of power sanding. Back to peripheral speed again. If the peripheral speed of the lathe (meters per second) greatly exceeds the peripheral speed of the sanding disc, there will be a tendency to "straighten out" the sanding scratches and much of the benefits of power sanding will be lost. If however your work is turning slowly and you are sanding with a typical electric drill (2100 - 2800rpm) the opposite will occur. The marks you leave behind will resemble somewhat the marks Torville and Dean leave on fresh ice, which in turn will resemble the marks left by an orbital sander on a flat surface. This is infinitely more acceptable than the concentric rings left by hand sanding. For best results, the work should revolve into the path of the revolving disc. Simplified, anti-clockwise work should be sanded

clockwise. This is normal enough in practice, and only really becomes an issue when turning outboard on a lathe that has no reverse facility. If you are a previous Lotto winner and own a reversing lathe and a reversing drill you will be able to sand very efficiently by alternating. Using this method, many timbers can be finished to a satisfactory degree using 320 grit, which is near impossible using the conventional approach. Power sanding is all but a science on its own, and a great deal of time could be spent on it. As with any method of sanding though, the paper must be fresh and clean, otherwise a great deal of heat can be generated. Some timbers such as Rimu and Matai have a very low tolerance to heat, and end grain cracking will result.

Back then to so-called conventional sanding. Holding abrasive paper against revolving timber will produce sanding rings, scratches if you prefer. No 'ifs' or 'buts'. The coarser the paper the deeper the scratches, and vice versa, and almost inevitably across the grain of the work. Infuriating business this woodturning is. Potters never have this trouble with clay. This phenomenon is in most cases impossible to avoid, certainly in spindle work, and simply must be dealt with. The only course of action is to methodically toil through the grades. On larger pieces however, it is possible to simulate the action of the orbital sander. Don't worry too much about making the same noise though, as the spray may stain your work.

Lets work through the process in logical sequence, first assuming your tool work is reasonably thorough. If it is not you will spend a disproportionate time sanding, and your enjoyment of an absorbing craft will suffer. Remedy: Seek help and advice from a proficient turner, and attend any seminars that you can. OK. We are sanding a bowl, and our initial attack is with 180 grit. A couple of passes will reveal any areas that are likely to cause difficulty, usually a furry piece of end grain. Two choices here. Continue sanding the entire bowl, or hand-sand the trouble spot. May I suggest the latter to you? This is not cheating. It's your workshop after all, YOU make the rules. Hand sand with the grain of course, or as near as you can. Use the same grit or one coarser. When satisfied, switch on again and work through the grades using the methods outlined previously. Remember that sandpaper is a disposable item. There is nothing to be gained by persevering with worn paper. Carry on until 320 has been used, then take a different approach. Slow the lathe to the slowest speed possible, by slipping the belt if necessary. I

have electronic speed control on one lathe and a crude clutch on the other. Both systems reduce the work to a crawl. Try and find a way of doing this with your machine. A simple wedge to lift the motor may suffice. For the remaining grit grades, 400 to 1200 depending on your standards, a scrubbing action is employed. This can be quite physical. Best you lock the workshop door for these final stages as you run the risk of looking very silly. If you examine the scratches after using this method, using a magnifying glass if necessary, you will find they are no longer concentric, but a series of interlocking whorls which are not nearly as offensive. Do this both anti and clockwise if possible for maximum effect. Depending on the timber you are turning, you may achieve the finish you desire using 400, or you may have to toil on to 1200. There are no short cuts. Persevere, you will be rewarded.

Woody McMartin turns out of Cromwell in the South Island. He is a former Vice-President of the NAW

Special thanks to the National Association of Woodturners of New Zealand for their permission to reprint this Tool Review

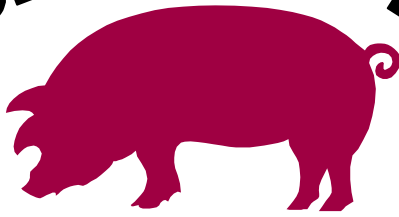
Member's Gallery



Directory Update

The Directory has been delayed. Due to my health setback in February, I'm not ready to publish the directory. I've received limited input from members, with many not submitting any information. I've moved the deadline to the May meeting. At that time I will be ready to begin the final proof of the project. If you have not submitted any information by that time I will publish the following from the Membership Director: Name, Address, Phone number, if available. This is your opportunity to be part of our first directory. Send your input to Eddie Castelin, 330 Highway Drive, Jefferson, LA 70121, call me at 835-1413 or E-mail it to eddiecastelin@hotmail.com.

Cochon du Lait



What - Pig Roast

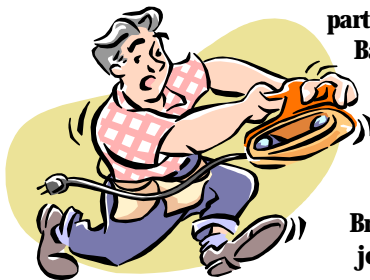
When - April 21, 2001

10:00 AM- til

Where - Dick & Julia Gahn's

Who - All Club members, husbands/
wives/significant others /kids

Dick & Julia will provide the Pig, Fried Turkey, Rice Dressing, Bread and paper goods. Please bring a covered dish, your own drinks (soda, beer, wine, etc.) & lawn chair(s).



Bring your Belt Sander and participate in the 2nd annual Bayou Woodturner's 500 Belt Sander Race



Bring your Tape Measure and join in the inaugural Bayou Skew Tape Measure Races

Don't forget to bring a piece(s) for the Show & Tell

RSVP

Dick/Julia Gahn (504) 893-7603

President's Challenge II

The first challenge to members, the March Top Challenge, went quite well. Lots of members participated and showed some amazing spinning toys. *The next challenge, due at the June meeting, is a Turned Box Challenge.* This can be a box you already have in your collection or one you turn just for this challenge. Here are the rules: Turned boxes must be a maximum of 3" in diameter and 5" in height. Some component of the box must be turned. A card describing the box, materials and methods must be presented with the box. Challenges are more than a "show and tell", they are a learning experience for all members. The shape, design, style, materials, technique, finish, presentation of each of the boxes presented will reflect on the individuality of the member creating the work. We all learn from each other, sometimes we learn what to do, other times we learn what not to do. But each time we look at another turners' work we learn from it. Now the SUPER CHALLENGE! A turned box is one thing. But a turned box of two or more types of materials, or "Multi-Media", is a work of art. Go one step further in this challenge, turn something into your work, turn it out "Multi-Media'd".

The challenge for December is already set as Christmas ornaments for our annual tree project. I'd be interested in hearing suggestions on a September Challenge item. Give me a call. Eddie Castelin, 835-1413

ΚΡΟΞΕΡΜΗΥΔΤΑ



WITH DON MCLAREN



Don discusses how to use a common jigsaw blade as a chatter tool



Holding “chatter tool” with vise grip pliers



Applying color with a magic marker



Shaping the back of the top



Finished top –ready for spinning



Throwing a Top can be serious business

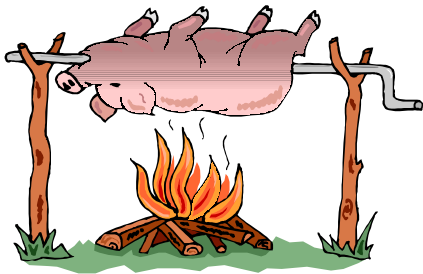


Bayou Woodturners
P.O. Box 231293
New Orleans, La. 70123

Place
Stamp
Here

The Bayou Skew

The Bayou Woodturners' Newsletter



Next meeting will be held at Dick & Julia Gahn's on **April 21, 2001**- The third Saturday in April (This is a change from our normally scheduled meeting date).

It will be our 2nd Annual Pig Roast Feast
Details on Page 9.

