

The Bayou Skew

September

Newsletter of the Bayou Woodturners

Vol. 9 / No.9

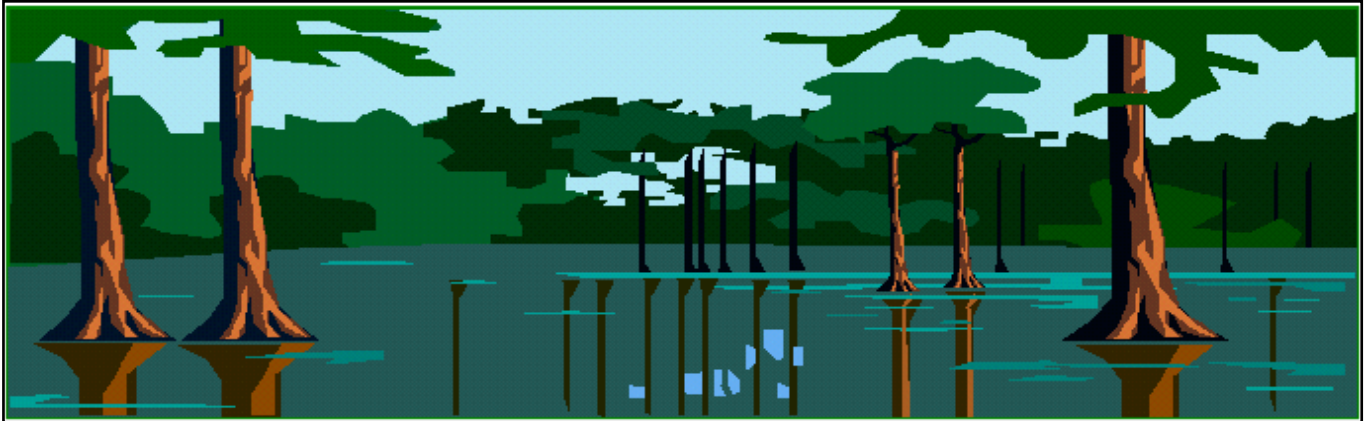


Table of Contents

Page 1
From the Headstock
Page 2
Past Years Pig roast Photos
Page 3
Upcoming Events
Page 4
SKEW III Photos
Page 5
Ebony on the Cheap
Page 6
Shop Made Ebonizing Stain
Page 7
Pig Roast Details
Page 8
Directions to Pig Roast
Page 10
Treasurer's Report
Page 11
Map & Directions to Meeting

Next Meeting

September 8, 2007

9:00 AM

PMC Machinery

Directions & Map on

Page 17

Main Demo @ 10:00AM

FROM THE HEADSTOCK

I must be living the good life. I just spent a week at Arrowmont and then came back to a really great SKEW. This is what it's all about.

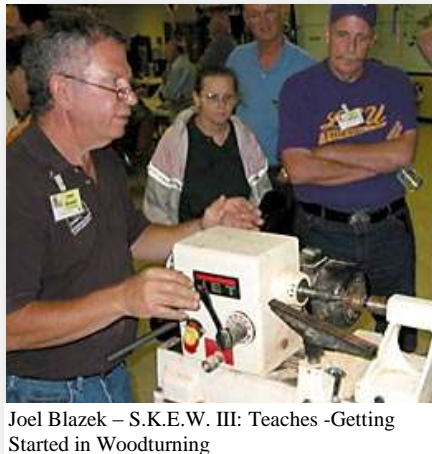
The week at Arrowmont was with master turner **Eli Avisera**. He taught mostly basics with a heavy emphasis on embellishment. I learned a few shop tips, how

to make a few tools and several new grinds for tools. It was a great trip. Can't wait to see what's on the schedule for next summer.

The August meeting was replaced with SKEW III and it was a hit. **Joel Blazek** did a great job of orchestrating another great

event. He personally provided most of the lathes and did wonders selling tickets thanks to his new on-line process. This on-line system now allows renewing members to pay their membership dues with a credit card. I suspect that this may make renewals a little easier for returning members. We'll look into adding a feature where new members can join via the web.

The **David Ellsworth** weekend tickets went on sale August 11 and we've already recorded ticket sales. I'm getting inquiries from turners in other areas about joining Bayou Woodturners so they can participate in the two-day hands-on workshops following the weekend. I have to allow these woodturners to join



Joel Blazek – S.K.E.W. III: Teaches -Getting Started in Woodturning

our group and have the same opportunity you have to compete in the lottery. We have no restrictions on membership and won't as long as I'm doing my job. We welcome all turners, no matter what their abilities or reasons for joining.

This fall we'll begin the rotation series at the October meeting. It starts with the teaching of turning boxes. I'll teach this workshop and I already have the mock-ups and handouts ready. I'm going to add the embellishing techniques I saw at Arrowmont. Just a few little touches to make these boxes a little more interesting. In January we will go to Pens, then in April, it's simple

Headstock continued on page 10

On the Internet at: www.bayouwoodturners.com



OFFICERS &

President
Eddie Castelin
eddiecastelin@cox.net

Vice President
Kirk Gordon
wkgordon@cox.net

Treasurer
Ray Hoffman
roach1no@aol.com

Secretary
Dennis Wall
dwall116@cox.net

Editor/ Newsletter
Jerry Markowitz
jerrymarko@yahoo.com

Librarian
Dave Beehler
davidcbeehler@aol.com

Membership Director
Charlie Kragle
ckragle@earthlink.net

Special Events Manager
Joel Blazek
joelblazek@bellsouth.net

Development Manager
Sean Sullivan
Nanook468@aol.com



Master Chef – Dick Gahn



PIG ROAST
SEPTEMBER 29, 2007
DETAILS ON PAGE 7



Eddie Castelin's slightly modified Belt Sander



Faster than a speeding bullet – no not Superman, Ben Sulzer's Blue Streak, err Belt Sander



**Scenes from the Bayou Woodturners
2004 Pig roast**



Upcoming Events



September 2007

PMC Machinery- Sept 8th

Demo: Holiday Gift Items



Rolling Pin Challenge

Calendar Contest Photos



Pig Roast
Sept 29th

October 2007

Harahan Senior Center -Oct 13th



Calendar Contest Judging



Nominations for 2008 Officers

November 2007

Harahan Senior Center -Nov 10th

Nominations for 2008 Officers



2008 Bayou Woodturners Calendars For Sale

2ND BOTTLE STOPPER CHALLENGE

December 2007

Harahan Senior Center- Dec 8th



Member's Reward Silent Auction

Election of 2008 Officers



Christmas Gifts from Kits Challenge

\$\$\$
2008 Dues are Due



January 2008

TBA

February 2008

TBA



Bayou Woodturners Turn 9

March 2008

TBA



Pen Challenge

April 2008

TBA

May 2008

TBA



David Ellsworth Workshop
May 2008



Library Display & Demo -TBA



Dennis Wall: Box Turning



Keith Welsh: Hollowing

S.K.E.W. III

Skill Knowledge Education Workshop



Mike Gaule: using the Skew



Ron D'Aunoy: Coring

Joel Blazek coordinated another great SkillKnowledgeEducationWorkshop. A full day of learning everything from making boxes, hollowing, coring, spindle turning, making birdhouses, bandsaw techniques, skew usage, the ins and outs of what to look for in a lathe, and much more. No matter your skill level everyone came away with something new to try once they got back home.



Joel Blazek: Getting Started



Paul Burke: Spindle Turning

EBONY ON THE CHEAP

By Michael Gaule

I know everyone has an idea how much Ebony cost and I'm sure everyone has a project or two they would like to make with Ebony or use as an accent on a piece but the cost and difficulty in obtaining affordable quantities is holding you back. Many people like making small spindles for accenting projects from Ebony but this is also expensive. How would you like to make your own Ebony? I know it sounds crazy but this is the next best thing to buying the real deal, you don't even buy a can of Ebony stain, you make your own. You control the color, the kind of wood, use anything from birch to walnut, and the size of the wood is up to you.

Now, I know you are thinking that I am a pretty smart person so I must know what I am talking about and I am and I do but this wasn't my idea, I read it in one of the plethora of magazines I subscribe to. And since I am such a humble and generous person instead of keeping it to myself I thought I would share it with all the members that take the time to read the newsletter Jerry takes so much of his time to put together each month.. Following this inane amount of blathering is a reprint of the article from the Scrollsaw and Woodworking Crafts magazine issue 24.

This article was written by Mac Simmons (check out more finishing ideas at his site "www.macsimmons.com") and reprinted with permission of Fox Chapel Publishing. Jon Deck, the magazine's production manager took the time to get me two different formats of the article to be sure one would work for our newsletter and so we would have the pictures to go along with the text. Please take the time to check out their publications at www.FoxChapelPublishing.com or call 1.800.457.9112 for a catalogue of their books and magazines. If you want to thank Jon yourself for his trouble his email address is "jon@foxchapelpublishing.com"

One more thing before you run out to your shop and whip up a batch of this. Please be sure to WEAR ALL YOUR PROTECTIVE GEAR WHEN TURNING AND ESPECIALLY WHEN FOOLING WITH CHEMICALS SUCH AS THIS. DON'T THINK JUST BECAUSE IT IS **VINEGAR** IT WON'T

HURT YOUR EYES, IT'S AN ACID, MIXED WITH RUST!!!! COME ON GUYS DO THE RIGHT THING!

"BE SAFE, TURN SAFE"

Read Mac Simmons article beginning on next page.

Photos for the 2008 Bayou Woodturners Turning Arts Calendar will be taken at the September meeting.

Each member can have as many as three entries (Note: an entry can consist of more than one turning and or additional props to highlight your work) photographed at any one session, however, there is a maximum of five entries allowed for the entire challenge e.g. if you have two pieces photographed in March and two in June you will be allowed only one additional piece in September. All Pieces will be entered in one of three categories: *Beginner, Intermediate, or Advanced*. The category is decided by the entrant and is based on his or her assessment of their skill level - not on the complexity of the piece e.g. a simple bowl entered by an advanced turner must be put in the advanced category. If you feel that your skill level has increase between March and September you can be entered in multiple categories.

Two "months" will be allocated to winners of the *Beginner* category, 3 "months" to the winners of the *Intermediated* category, and 2 "months" to winners of the *Advanced* category with the final 3 "months" to be chosen by a random drawing of the remaining entries (allocation of months by category is subject to adjustment depending on the number of entries in each of the three categories). Only one winning entry per turner will go into the Calendar from this part of the Challenge, however, you can also be represented in the Calendar by winning the President's Challenge(s) and/or the Blockbuster Challenge.

There is no limit on the size of the entered work, but if you plan on showing a piece greater than 24" x 24" please let me know so that appropriate photographic arrangements can be made.

A form will be available at each photo shoot and must be filled out for each entry (Name, Category – Beginner/Intermediate/Advanced, Type of Wood(s), Size, and Title (optional)).

Judging of the Calendar entries photos will be held at the *October 2007* meeting with Calendars being available for purchase at the November meeting.

Jerry Markowitz

Ph: (985) 886-9616

Email: jerrymarko@yahoo.com

Shop-made Ebonizing Stain



For more of Mac's finishing techniques, visit www.macsimmons.com/MacNotebookIndex.

Use household items to make your own stain and create the look of exotic hardwoods

by Mac Simmons

Exotic hardwoods like ebony are expensive, but you can create your own stain with some steel wool, old nails, and vinegar.

These common items combine to make an acid stain. Vinegar is acetic acid, and when it combines with iron, it produces a stain that ranges from a silvery gray to dark black. This shop-made stain is a lot less expensive than buying the exotic woods.

Please note: Whenever you are going to work with any chemicals, be sure that you always wear personal protective gear before you start doing any mixing.

Mixing the Stain

Step 1: Start with a clean, 1-quart glass or plastic container.

Step 2: Add unfolded steel wool pads, rusty nails, and old metal screws. The more iron content, the faster the color will develop.

Step 3: Fill the container $\frac{3}{4}$ full with household vinegar (common 5% vinegar).

Step 4: Cover the container with a piece of cardboard, and allow it to ferment. Do not use a tight-fitting lid because the fermentation process creates a non-toxic gas that needs to escape. Take out the iron items after you achieve your color. Over time the acid stain may start to turn a greenish color as the iron continues to oxidize. Also, as the acid stain ages, it will lose its potency and the stain will become a lighter color.

Step 5: Let the chemicals react for a few hours.

Step 6: Test the color on a piece of scrap from the wood you plan on ebonizing. Mix the solution thoroughly before applying it.

Different Woods Yield Different Results

Baltic birch, oak, and walnut are all treated with the stain.

The top section shows the natural wood, and the bottom section shows what the color will be like after you apply the stain and a clear finish.

Certain woods will take the stain better than others. Oak and walnut, which are higher in natural tannin, work the best. Allow the test stain to dry and then apply several clear coats to see the final color.

The color of the stain depends on the length of time you allow the stain to ferment and the iron contents of your materials.

Once you have achieved your target color, stop the aging process by filtering the liquid through a paint strainer, coffee filter, or cheesecloth into a clean jar. If the color becomes too strong, you can add water or clean vinegar to dilute the color strength.

Documenting Your Process

For consistent results, keep notes and test your stain on the same wood you want to color. Testing on the same wood will alert you to any compatibility problems. Note the length of time you allowed the stain to react next to the test area, so you can achieve the same color in the future. Be sure to stain your pieces right away and only make enough stain for each job. Over time the acid stain will start to turn a greenish color as the iron continues to oxidize.

The Staining Process

Step 1: Sand the wood. Make sure the wood is clean and dust free. The stain may raise the grain on some wood. If this happens, sponge clean water onto the wood, allow it to dry, and sand off the raised fibers.

Step 2: Wipe or brush the stain onto the wood. Use a clean rag, foam brush, or synthetic bristle brush.

Step 3: Apply a clear finish. Make sure the stain is completely dry before applying your clear coat of choice.



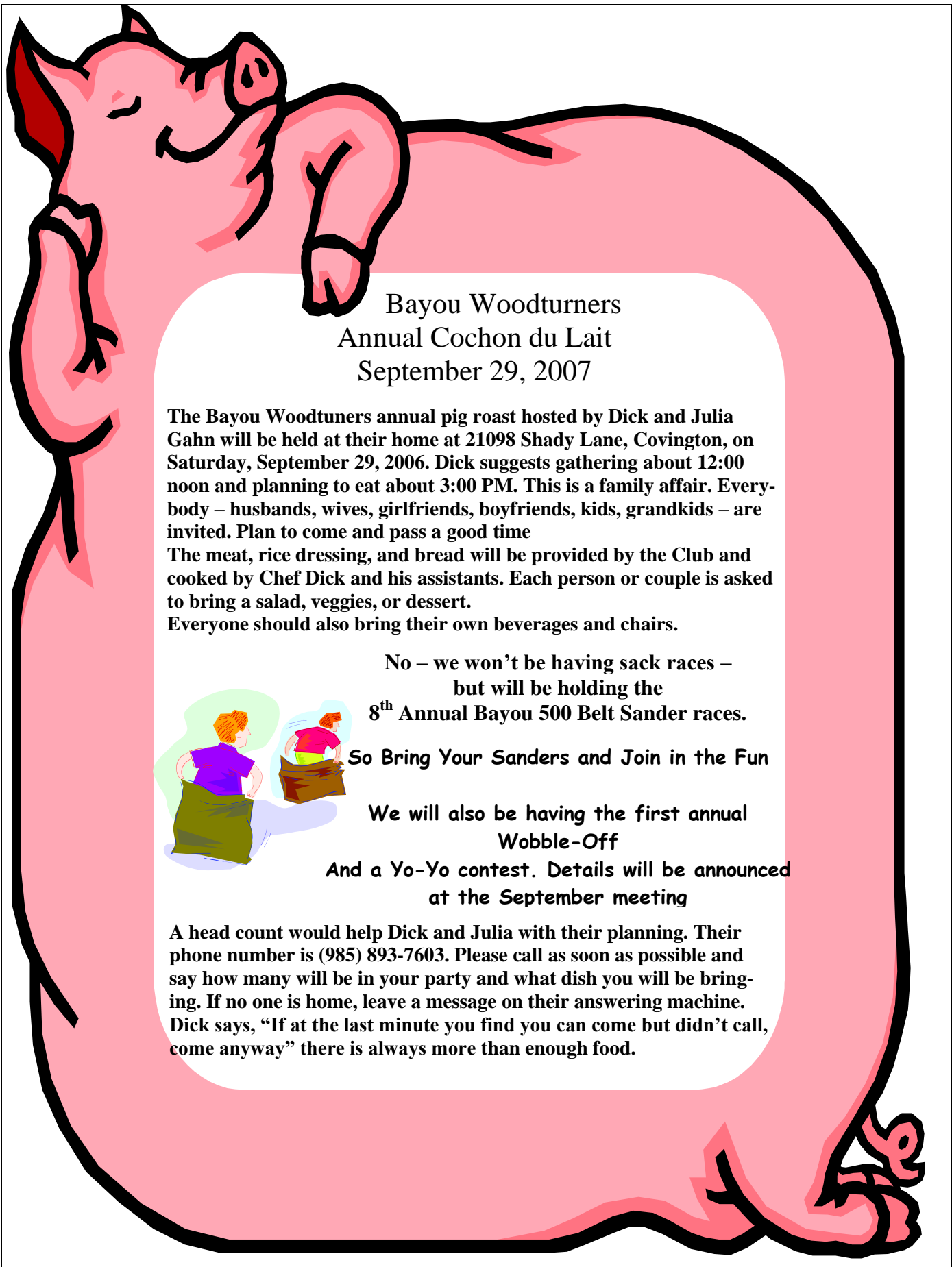
One piece of oak colored using four different dilutions of the ebony stain.



Originally published in
Reprinted with permission

SCROLLSAW
Woodworking & Crafts

For more information on our woodworking books and magazines, please visit www.FoxChapelPublishing.com or call 800-457-9112 for a free catalog.



Bayou Woodturners
Annual Cochon du Lait
September 29, 2007

The Bayou Woodturners annual pig roast hosted by Dick and Julia Gahn will be held at their home at 21098 Shady Lane, Covington, on Saturday, September 29, 2006. Dick suggests gathering about 12:00 noon and planning to eat about 3:00 PM. This is a family affair. Everybody – husbands, wives, girlfriends, boyfriends, kids, grandkids – are invited. Plan to come and pass a good time

The meat, rice dressing, and bread will be provided by the Club and cooked by Chef Dick and his assistants. Each person or couple is asked to bring a salad, veggies, or dessert.

Everyone should also bring their own beverages and chairs.

No – we won't be having sack races –
but will be holding the
8th Annual Bayou 500 Belt Sander races.



So Bring Your Sanders and Join in the Fun

We will also be having the first annual
Wobble-Off

And a Yo-Yo contest. Details will be announced
at the September meeting

A head count would help Dick and Julia with their planning. Their phone number is (985) 893-7603. Please call as soon as possible and say how many will be in your party and what dish you will be bringing. If no one is home, leave a message on their answering machine. Dick says, "If at the last minute you find you can come but didn't call, come anyway" there is always more than enough food.



Directions to Dick and Julia Gahn's House for Pig Roast on Sept 29

Directions to Dick Gahn's House for Pig Roast

From Causeway take Hwy 190 N to Covington

From Covington Take Hwy 21 N to Bogaloussa for 2 miles

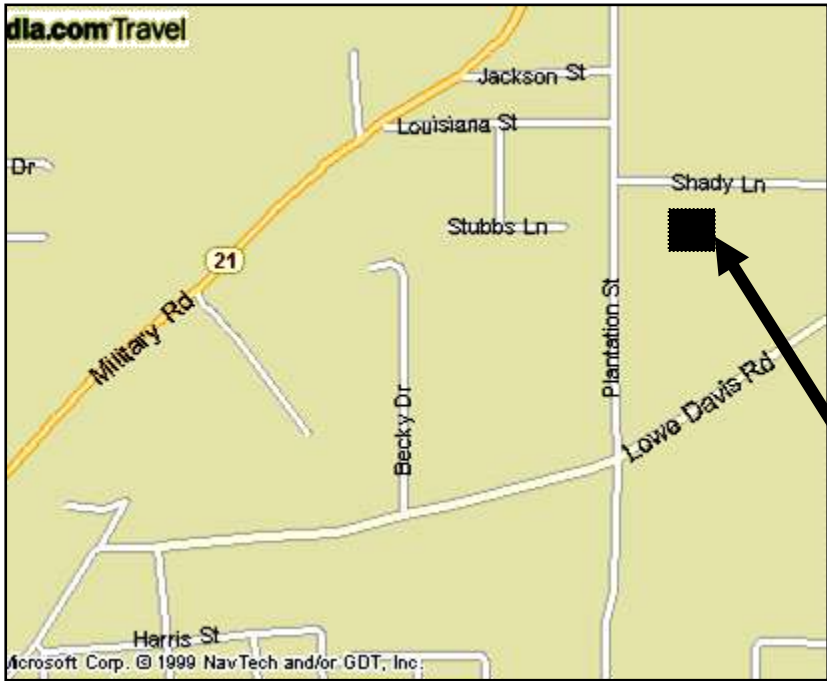
Turn Right on Louisiana St

Turn Right on Plantation St

Turn Left on Shady Lane

Third House on Right

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



Rolling Pin Challenge

The Rolling Pin Challenge will be judged at the September meeting.
The following rules and guidelines pertain to the challenge:

- Members are allowed to display up to three (3) Pins for the challenge. A Challenge Coordinator will be set up at the sign-in area. You will surrender your pins to the coordinator.
- The Coordinator will provide you with a numbered 3X5 card for each of your entries.
- You will print your name on the back of the card and return it to the Coordinator.
- If you wish to name your piece, the Coordinator will put that info on the front of the card.
- The Coordinator will then set the pins into the display, in a random order, for viewing.
- The Greeter will provide each member a ballot as they sign in to the meeting.
- Balloting will take place following the Gallery.
- **No entries will be accepted after the gallery has started (9:30)**
- Categories include: Most Creative, Multi-Media and Best of Show.
- NOTICE! Only active (dues paying) members can display or vote. Be sure to settle your dues with Membership Director Charlie Kragle before the meeting.



Femispheres – Check out Captain Eddie’s Notebook at the Bayou Woodtuners website and learn how to make a *femisphere*. And get ready for the **First-ever Femisphere "Wobble-Off"** to be held during the Pig Roast in September

Renew Your Dues Online at
www.turnedwood.net

**Get Your Tickets to the David Ellsworth
Weekend Workshop at**
www.turnedwood.net

Headstock continued from page 1

bowls followed in July with Hollowing techniques using some basic and advanced tools. I heard lots of comments on this program from new turners at the SKEW. They are anxious awaiting this program and we're about to deliver. This month we'll be at PMC Machinery in Baptist, LA. (that's just outside Hammond on 190) This is the only place I know where you can put your hands on 4 different types of lathes at one time. We've invited local turners to join us, hopefully they'll join up and join in the fun of turning. I'm heading to the shop, and hoping the A/C is running wide open today. Stand-by for excellence

Cap'n Eddie.

*President,
Bayou Woodturners*

Treasurer's Report By Ray Hoffmann

Beginning Balance 7/30/07	\$2,570.40
Income:	
SKEW III	\$678.18
Dues	\$25.00
Anchor Seal	\$20.00
Ellsworth Demo	\$50.00
Bulk Order	\$167.33
Total	\$940.51
Disbursements:	
Equipment(DVD's)	\$510.47
Hall Rental	\$25.00
Total	\$535.47
Balance -8/30/07	\$2,975.44

Corporate Sponsors Bayou Woodturners

R.J. Marchand
Contractors Specialties Inc.
3515 Division Street
Metairie, La
(504) 888-2922

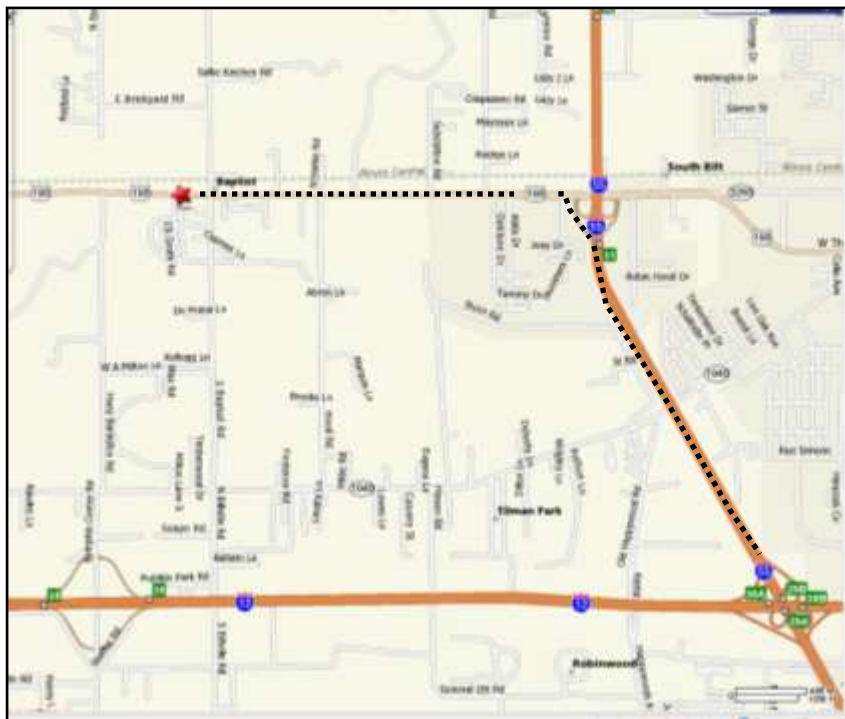
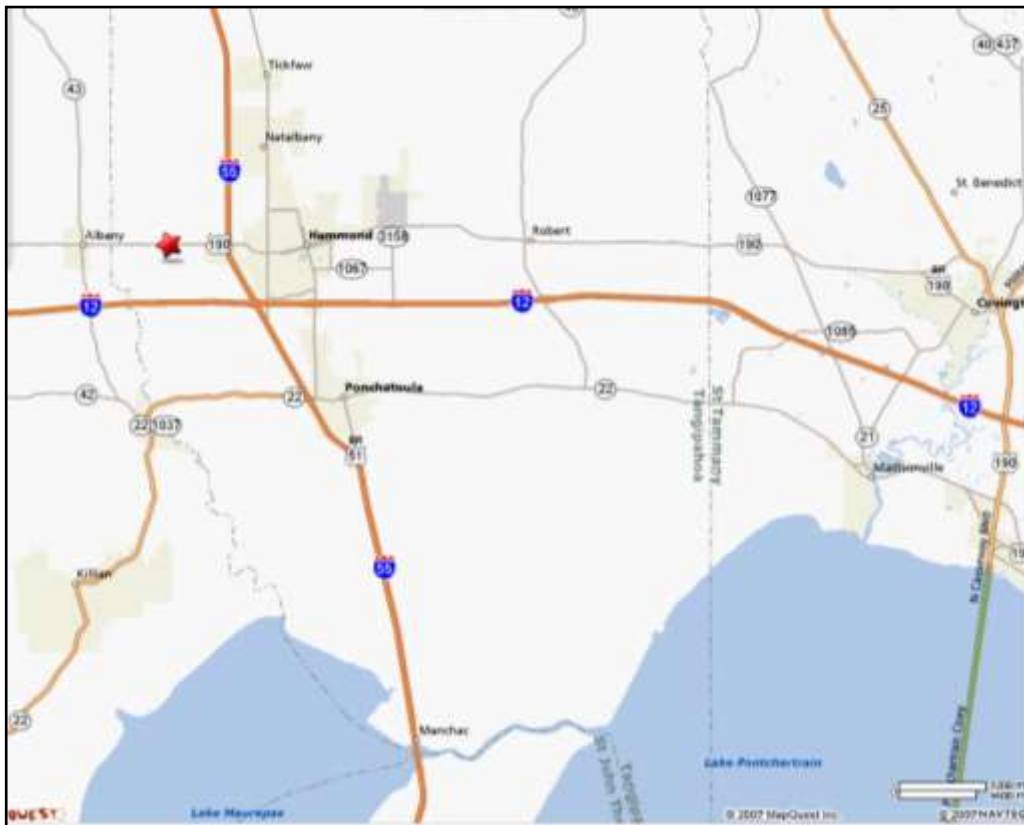
Riverside Lumber Co.
5451 Morrison Rd.
New Orleans, LA. 70126
(504) 242-6624



**1 Industrial
Parkway
Ponchatoula,
La**
(985) 386-6079

Craft Supplies USA
www.woodturnerscatalog.com

KLINGSPOR'S
WOODWORKING SHOP
Quality Tools and Supplies for the Woodworker
1-800-228-0000
www.woodworkingshop.com



**Directions to
PMC Wood Machinery**

From Downtown New Orleans take I-10 West approximately 24 miles to I-55 North (Exit 210 -heading to Hammond/Ponchatoula Stay on I-55 North for approximately 31 miles. Take Exit 31(US-190 West – toward Albany/Hammond. Turn left onto US – 190 – go approximately 2 miles to PMC Machinery.

**PMC Machinery
11420 Highway 190 W**

The Bayou Skew
The Bayou Woodturners'
Newsletter



Inside:

Rolling Pin Challenge rules

Photos from SKEW III

Details on the Upcoming Pig Roast

Shop Made Ebonizing Stain

Maps and Directions to Next Meeting and Pig Roast

And Much Much More