



Tennessee Association of Woodturners

The Tennessee Turner

December 2008

Volume XXI, Issue 14

Inside This Issue:

President's message	1
Dec 2 Meeting Info	1
Saturday Turn In	2
2008 Schedule	2
Minutes of Meeting	2
Nov Demonstrator	2-3
Instant Gallery	3
Vacuum Chucking	4
TAW Symposium	5
Desert Symposium	5
Woodworking Links	5
Featured Demonstrator	5
Turn for the Troops	5
Christmas Fundraiser	6
Woodworking Show	6
Items for Sale	6
From the Editor	6
Membership Renewal	6
Symposium Form	7
Renewal Form	8

Important dates to remember:

- Dec. Meeting – Dec 2
- Dec Turn In – Dec 20
- Symposium – Jan 23-24

President's Message

As you are all aware, Christmas is just around the corner! This means a frenzy of activity - turning those final gifts, selecting tools to assign to family members to purchase for you, and well, thinking of others who may need some special attention during this time of thanksgiving and sharing. So, with that in mind, we have a few reminders to pass along.

The TAW is selling ornaments and small turned items to benefit the Children of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home in Brentwood. This is a worthy cause and a bit of a thank you to the local campus for their generosity through the year. Please take an hour or so and make a few items to donate to this effort - they can be Christmas ornaments, Bowls, Boxes or any other small turnings. If you feel really generous, the donation of cash is also welcome.

Remember, we will not be meeting at the Children's Home in December. Instead, the meeting is going to be held at Woodcraft in Franklin. There will be a brief business discussion and an opportunity for you to tour the store and browse all of the tools for more gift receiving ideas! We will begin the meeting at 7:00PM and there will be some refreshments available as well.

We are getting closer and closer to the symposium that will be January 23 & 24 at the Radisson Opryland Hotel. This year's event will be an excellent opportunity to learn from some of the biggest names in our field! So, if you have not done it yet, please visit our club's website at www.tnwoodturners.org/symposium for more information and to download the registration form. You can send it in or bring it to the meeting in December or January.

I trust you all will have a memory filled Thanksgiving holiday! We will see you at Woodcraft on December 2!

Ray Sandusky

Club Meeting–Tuesday, Dec 2

The December TAW club meeting will be held at the **Woodcraft Store in Franklin**. There will be a short business meeting. Bring your instant gallery items to show. If you are looking for that last minute gift item we will have the Christmas ornament items available for sale. This is also a great time to browse through the Woodcraft store and make notes for what you would like Santa to bring. The meeting will start at 7:00 pm.

Saturday Turn-In

The Saturday Turn-In will be on December 20 at the TBCH workshop. The session will run from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. If you have a particular need to help you become a better turner or if you just have a tool that needs to be sharpened correctly come on by and someone will be there to assist you.

2008 Tentative Schedule and Calendar of Events

Club Projects

November & December – Christmas Fund Sale for Tennessee Baptist Children's Home the dates for sales at The Factory – Franklin, TN, are scheduled for the Saturdays of November 29th, December 13th and 20th.

January 23 & 24, 2009 – 21st Annual Symposium – Demonstrators are: Jimmy Clewes - Cindy Drozda – Mike Mahoney – Bob Rosand

Club Meeting Programs

December 2 – Christmas Party at Woodcraft, Franklin, TN

January 6 2009 – Pat Matranga – basics of spindle turning (proper use of gouge, parting tool & skew) and basics of face plate turning and make a platter

February 3 – Myra Orton – from Andi Wolfe session (TAW scholarship class)

April 7- Gary Martin – from Graeme Priddle session (TAW scholarship class)

Saturday Sessions (8:00 am to 1:00 pm unless otherwise specified)

December 20 –

January 17 2009–

Club Sawdust Trail – Shop visits (We are looking for shops to visit) call or email Mike Zinser if you want to volunteer your shop – 615/292-8652 or mike.zinser@yahoo.com

Minutes of the Meeting –Nov 6

Ray Sandusky called the meeting to order. Daniel Bell, Kevin Herndon, Wayne Rice, Bob Forsythe, and Sally Johnson were visitors.

Symposium updates:

Registration form is on the TAW web site.

Registration form will be sent out as an email attachment.

There will be a limit of 250 registered attendees for the symposium.

We added one additional vendor for a total of 7. Woodcraft in Franklin hosted Turn for the Troops on November 8-9.

Club announced that we will fund 3 scholarships in 2009 – scholarship applications are due by January 21, 2009. Brenda Stein will coordinate the scholarship review.

December 2 meeting will be held at Woodcraft Store in Franklin, TN

November Demonstrator



Mike Zinser introduced **Bob Speier** from Germantown, TN as the demonstrator. Bob is a member of the Midsouth Woodturner's Guild. His wife, Sandy, was recently elected to the AAW board of directors. Bob discussed how to make a simple, efficient, and inexpensive vacuum chuck system. He indicated that the minimum system for a mini lathe would be at least ¼ horsepower and for a large lathe at least ½ horsepower. The pull should be 27 inch. The vacuum system is intended for finishing up a piece and makes it easy to finish the bottom of turned pieces. All the fittings for the system are standard brass plumbing fittings available at Home Depot or Lowe's. He showed us the vacuum adaptor rod that Bill Elliott made from 3/8" lamp rod and also indicated that you can purchase a vacuum adaptor kit from Packard

Woodworks. This rod has to go through the headstock and you can leave it on the lathe unless you have to use the knock out bar.

The vacuum chuck heads can be made up from schedule 40 PVC fittings, hollow drip tubing (he purchased from Lowe's Garden Center) and other inexpensive materials. Bob uses a Beall Spindle Tap (available at Woodcraft) to tap the wooden backing pieces for his chuck heads. You could also use this to make your own face plates, glue blocks etc. A 1 ¼" tap requires a predrilled 1 1/8" hole. The question of how to deal with porous woods was answered by using saran wrap. Fun Foam from Hobby Lobby works well to fill in irregular surfaces. You can find used vacuum pumps on EBay, the Surplus Center has rebuilt pumps (1-800-488-3407), and Woodcraft in Franklin will be stocking the Holdfast Vacuum Kit.

Instant Gallery



Ray Sandusky - sugar maple vase with walnut finial



Jim Elliott - cherry burl platter, walnut bowl



Bill Summar - clare burl walnut bowls



Andy Woodard - small boxes made from holly, cedar, walnut and maple



Brevard Haynes - Christmas ornaments



Ron Ferriera - walnut vase



John Lucas - cherry bowl w/decorated edge



Ron Sanda - spinning tops



Ben Thompson - mahogany/ebony platter



Barry Werner - cherry vase



Pete Wiens - spalted maple bowls, ambrosia maple bowl set, persimmon natural edge



Vacuum Chucking Revisited

The November meeting featured Bob Speier who demonstrated him vacuum chucking techniques. Several club members expressed an interest in obtaining more information on vacuum chucking.

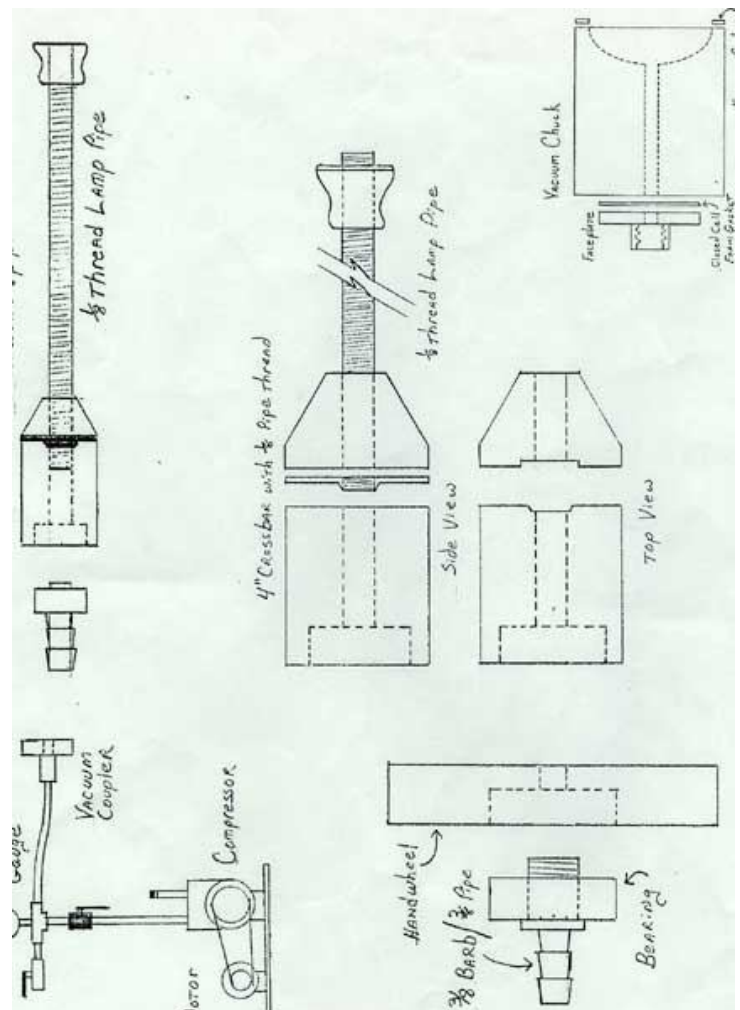
John Lucas shared the following information:

Here are some tips on vacuum chucking. There are two excellent articles in American Woodturner: American Woodturner Vol. 13, no 4, pg 32. A really good article on the basics of vacuum chucking.

American Woodturner, vol. 14, no 1, pg 28. An excellent article on building a vacuum compressor from an automotive compressor (I did that and it works great). There are two things that matter when buying a vacuum pump - horse power and CFM (cubic feet per minute) rating. For a vacuum chuck both are important. The reason is that wood leaks. Actually every connection in the system can leak so you need the horsepower to drive the system and the CFM to handle the leaks. 3 CFM is minimum - more is better, 1/2 horse is minimum and more is better. Ideally the pump should draw 20 to 28 inches of mercury. However, this isn't critical depending on the size of work you do. A vacuum works by pulling air out of the system so the atmospheric pressure pushes against the outside at 14lbs per square inch. If you are a math person you can look up the formula's and figure out how strong that is but I'll just tell you from practical experience that small pieces 4" in diameter or less hold fairly well but can be pulled off with a good catch. Remember there are little leaks all over so you can't depend on a full 28" of mercury. On the other hand a 15" bowl can have so much pressure on the outside that you can actually implode it if the wall gets thin. For that reason I usually turn the vacuum down to 10 or 15" when doing thin bowls of any size. To be safe on anything you do bring the tailstock up until you have enough experience to know what is safe and what isn't.

Some tricks I've learned. Bowls leak and sometimes have defects. You can seal these with saran wrap. Some wood leaks more than others. I will sometimes put a coating of finish on the bowl before vacuum chucking. This seals the wood so it doesn't leak as bad. When turning green bowls they warp. This makes is hard for some vacuum chucks to form a good seal. A tip I learned from the AW tips pages (imagine that) is to cut a square

piece of foam, like the foam sheets you get with computer stuff or closed cell foam from Hobby Lobby. This foam sheet should be larger than your vacuum chuck. Cut a 1" or so hole in the center. Now place this over the chuck and put your bowl on. You can grab one of the corners to help position the foam. This extra foam will usually give you enough thickness to form a seal on an out of round bowl. The length of the vacuum chuck doesn't have any affect on the vacuum so you can make them longer if necessary for deep bowls. This works especially well for larger deep natural edge bowls. One last trick: When cutting the final 1/2" with the tailstock removed, put more pressure on the bevel toward the headstock than forward pressure on the cutting edge. This not only pushes the piece toward the vacuum chuck but also reduces the sideways force that can push the bowl off the chuck.



Tennessee Association of Woodturners

21st Annual Symposium

**January 23-24, 2009
Save the Date!!**

To be held at the Radisson Opryland Hotel
Nashville TN.

**Featured Demonstrators for the Symposium are:
Jimmy Clewes, Cindy Drozda, Mike Mahoney &
Bob Rosand**

**The 2009 Symposium highlights will include:
Instant Gallery, People's Choice Award, Dinner
and Auction, Vendors: Best Wood Tools,
Woodcraft, Big Monk Lumber, HS Woods,
Thompson Lathe Tools, and Roundtable
discussion with the demonstrators.**

For more information: Go to the TAW web site
www.tnwoodturners.org or send an email to
symposium@tnwoodturners.org
or call 615-300-0363.

Desert Woodturning Symposium

The Arizona Woodturners Association will hold its
third annual Desert Woodturning Roundup on
February 6, 7 & 8, 2009 at the Mesa Convention
Center, Mesa, AZ. For details please go to:
www.desertwoodturningroundup.com

Woodworking Links

American Association of Woodturners
www.woodturner.org

Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts, Gatlinburg,
TN, www.arrowmont.org 1-865-436-5860

Duck River Woodturners Club, Columbia, TN
www.duckriverwoodturners.com

Tri-State Woodturners Club, Chattanooga, TN
www.tristatewoodturners.org

This Month's Featured Symposium Demonstrator – Mike Mahoney



Mike Mahoney has been a professional wood turner since 1994. His bowls are featured in galleries across the United States.

Mike's work is sought after by collectors all over the world. Mike is often requested to demonstrate and teach for wood turning clubs, craft schools and symposia. He has traveled around the world to discuss and demonstrate his craft. He is considered an authority in woodturning.



Artist Statement: "I am passionate about my craft and the American Craft movement. I am dedicated to producing quality craft and educating the public about woodturning. My wood comes from urban sources (tree trimmers and local cities). I produce all my work on the lathe without any embellishments after the fact, creating a very traditional feel with contemporary ideas. I want my work to be attractive as well as useful. For my work to be admired is one thing, but for my work to be used fulfills my purpose as a craftsman."

For more information on attending Mike's classes, see the [workshop information sheet](#).

Turn For The Troops

TAW members turned 1551 pens for the troops. The Woodcraft Store in Franklin donated pen kits and will deliver the pens. The club thanks all the members who turned pens for this project.

Christmas Fundraiser

The Tennessee Association of Woodturners began selling donated items on November 8th at the Linden Waldorf School, Hillsboro Road, Nashville, TN. We sold \$455.00 on that date, we gave 20 percent to the Linden Waldorf School and the remaining \$374.00 has been delivered to the TBCH. Our next selling efforts will be at The Factory in Franklin, TN, on November 29th, December 13th and 20th.

We request that all TAW members turn at least two Christmas ornaments and any other turned items for the sale so we will have both a variety to choose from and an adequate supply. **Be sure to either sign or initial your projects along with the year.** They just sell better that way.

We invite everyone to please come to The Factory on Franklin Road, just north of downtown Franklin, TN, to support your clubs sales efforts. You may find turnings you will want to add to your own collection or give as Christmas gifts. Mike Zinser

The Woodworking Shows Coming to Nashville!

On December 12, 13, 14, it'll be a weekend of jolly good fun, buys to make even the Grinch smile, and lots of learning from some of the best educators in the business. Plus, at many of our classes, you'll actually get sawdust under you fingernails! And they're all included with the price of admission.

At the **Hand Tool Rodeo**, you'll learn to power-up your projects with hand planes, chisels and more. Tools are provided but bring your own hand plane for a more personal experience!

Turning is king at The Craft Supplies **Intro to Turning** demo. It's a great place to hone your skills – or introduce the kids or grandkids to the fun of pen turning.

Over at the **WOOD Magazine Project Shop**, Jim Heavey shows you how easy it is to make jigs – and how they'll improve your woodworking.

Mark Hensley brings his fascination of trains to life with an amazing class that uses a model train to teach the skills you need to build tables, cabinets, and more. So be sure to *get on board* at the **Skills Express!**

There's even more...seminars on Finishing and Cabinetmaking – plus The Woodworking Shows' Library, which opens an hour earlier than the show each day.

It's all at The Woodworking Shows, December 12 – 14 at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center. Show hours are Friday 12 – 6, Saturday 10 – 6, and Sunday 10 – 4.

Tickets are \$9 at the door or purchase online at www.thewoodworkingshows.com where you'll also find a \$2 discount coupon for at-show ticket purchases.

Items For Sale

Bosch power tools and router bits. Contact Fred Eicher for pricing: jfesl@aol.com

Standing forest trees for sale. Most of the leaves have fallen; know the tree by the bark. Persimmon, Sassafras, Dogwood, Shumard, Oaks; Cedar, mulberry, Ash and others. Cut yourselves a tree or two where TDOT has staked out Highway Property. Horse Mountain, Bedford County. Alice Jensen (931)684 7851 alicejen@bellsouth.net

From the Editor

January newsletter articles are due December 19 and should be submitted to Jeff Brockett at woodwackerjeff@aol.com. If you have a project that would be of interest to the club members please send me that information with pictures. Classified ads for woodworking related items are free to members. Members can also submit wood turning, finishing, and tool questions for our resident experts to answer. Please advise me of any changes in your mailing or email address.

Membership Renewal

It is time to renew your TAW membership. All membership renewals must be received before December 31, 2008 to be included in the 2009 TAW directory and to receive the member's fee for the Symposium. You can find a renewal form on the last page or go to www.tnwoodturners.org and obtain a membership renewal form. Membership Fee is \$25.



Tennessee Association of Woodturners
21st ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM
Friday, January 23 & Saturday, January 24, 2009
Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Telephone, Home: () _____ Work: () _____

Are you currently a TAW member? Yes No (circle one)

Symposium Fees

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>	
Full Symposium	\$ 135.00*	\$ 165.00*	_____
One Day Only	\$ 85.00*	\$ 105.00*	_____
Spouse	\$ 75.00*	\$ 75.00*	_____
Youth (under 18)	\$ 35.00*	\$ 35.00*	_____
Banquet/Auction Only	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00	_____
2009 TAW Dues	\$ 25.00		_____

*includes Banquet/Auction, whether attending or not

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

SPOUSE'S NAME IF ATTENDING: _____

CHECKS: MAKE PAYABLE TO: Tennessee Association of Woodturners

CREDIT CARDS:

Master Card/Visa/Discover Card #: _____ Exp Date: _____

Exact Name On Card: _____

Signature: _____

Send by return mail to: TAW 2009 Symposium
 Symposium Chairman
 P.O. Box 158296
 Nashville, TN 37215



TENNESSEE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS 2009 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please return this form at the club meeting or via mail to: TAW, P. O. Box 158296, Nashville, TN 37215

Annual Membership Dues - \$25 Individual / \$18 Student / \$40 Business.

Please make check payable to: Tennessee Association of Woodturners

Date _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work _____ Cell _____

E-Mail Address _____

Your Web Site Address _____

Are you a member of the American Association of Woodturners? Yes _____ No _____

How many years of woodturning experience do you have? _____

Do you have a specialty that you would like to share with the membership of our club? _____



Email Club Questions to:
info@tnwoodturners.org
pres@tnwoodturners.org

or Mail:
TAW
P.O. Box 158296
Nashville, TN 37215

Check out the Website!

See us at:

www.tnwoodturners.org

Tennessee Association of Woodturners

Board of Directors

President -	Ray Sandusky – rsandusky@comcast.net
Vice President -	Mike Zinser – mike.zinser@yahoo.com
Treasurer -	David Sapp – sappoman@comcast.net
Secretary/Newsletter -	Jeff Brockett – woodwackerjeff@aol.com
Webmaster	Joe Curl - jacurl@comcast.net
Librarian	Bill Tucker - billtucker@comcast.net
Director -	Brian Clarry – brianclarry@comcast.net
Director -	Greg Godwin – gggwoodturning@comcast.net
Director -	Brenda Stein – brendastein@bellsouth.net
Director -	Phil Stoner – phil@mightyoakstudio.com
Director -	Bill Summar – bjcsummar@cpws.net



The Tennessee Association of Woodturners is a local chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. Our purpose is to provide a meeting place for local turners to share ideas and techniques and to educate the general public regarding the art of turning. The TAW meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home, off of Franklin Road in Brentwood, TN and periodically sponsors local exhibitions and demonstrations as well as an annual symposium