



# THE TURNING TIMES

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THE TURNING TIMES is published monthly as an information source for members of the East Texas Woodturners (ETW). ETW is a chapter of The American Association of Woodturners (AAW) and is committed to serving woodturners in the East Texas area surrounding Tyler, Texas. The ETW Chapter joins with the AAW in its dedication to providing education, information and organization to those interested in woodturning.

Meeting at TJC West

December 9, 2006 @ 9:00 a.m.

## The Prez Says:

Steven Hagler did an outstanding job with the birdhouse Christmas ornament demonstration last month. Even though it was said that Steven gave the best "Novice" demonstration in a long time, I think we need to move him up a notch. Steven can teach a lot of us a few things about workmanship and style at the lathe.

Our demonstration this month is "Chucking and Jamming for Unusual Shapes" by none other than Charles Brooks. This should give us bowl turners a kick in the pants. We have all seen Charles's work on the show and tell table. I am sure we are in for a treat.

December is time for the yearly raffle. The prize is a Jet variable speed mini lathe worth over \$380.00. Tickets will be for sale at the meeting. And we will draw after the mid meeting break. You do not have to be present to win the yearly or quarterly raffle, but it's more fun if you are there. The Show & Tell raffle is an expensive and now hard to obtain Glaser bowl gouge. The quarterly raffle prize is a complete sharpening system.

Bill Holmes, our Secretary, will have membership renewal forms available for you at the meeting so that you can renew for calendar year 2007. Remember the dues are \$36 next year. There is no need to procrastinate, 2007 is going to be a great year for woodturning.

This is my last column as your president. I am very grateful to the officers and all the members of this association. This club has grown and matured since I have come to know you and 2006 is no exception. This club is truly focused on the membership from novice to expert. Believe me, no membership need is ignored. We might not have the time and resources to be everything for everybody, but by golly we try to do what we can. The officers of this club have done their jobs way and above the ordinary. They are all "self starters", if given a task, they come through. They have an unwritten creed that "if we are going to do something, we are going to do it right". They want what is best for us and they work extremely hard to insure that we are the best club we can be. My thanks to all of them.

Going into the next year, I hope you are aware that it is getting harder to please the discriminating wood turner. Our hobby is growing nationwide and even worldwide. More tools and equipment is becoming available and the knowledge base is increasing. Our library is growing because more is being learned and techniques are

being made available. Wood turners unlike some other hobbyist's love to share and rarely keep trade secrets to themselves. Venders are also recognizing this trend and the catalogs are growing with tools and materials that we can really use. Quality is on the rise. This club, I am sure, with the leadership and the membership it has available is going to keep up during the coming years. Don't get caught with the thought that you've probably seen it all. You haven't, the best is yet to come.

Cary

## Thanking the President

I am sure that all of us want to thank Cary for the wonderful leadership and knowledge that he has shared with us during his tenor as our President. We thank you Cary and also your lovely wife Lynn.

## The November 29<sup>th</sup> , Steering Committee Meeting

The following are the issues discussed and motions past at the November 29<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting:

- Some members wanted to see an annual financial statement so we will publish it in the newsletter beginning in January 2007 and quarterly thereafter.
- There is a need for a photographer for show and tell items.

## Calendar of Events

December 9, 2006  
Regular Meeting

January 3, 2007  
SC TJCW Rm.101

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## Classifieds

### Custom Woods

Woods for Craftsmen, Builders and Hobbyist. Jim Tobias 903-396-2196 Located between Kerns & Trinidad, off Hwy 31.

### The Hardwood Barn

New shipment of new turning blocks of all sizes. Toni @ 903-822-4113  
[toni@hardwoodbarn.com](mailto:toni@hardwoodbarn.com)

### For Sale.

Ernie Conover Lathe with Leeson 1,5hp EVS motor (probably less than 25 hours on this new motor). - \$1,000.00 1/4hp motor with buffing wheel - \$20.00 DeWalt 12" Radial Arm Saw - \$550.0 Belsaw 12" planer - \$750.00 Delta 6"X42" Jointer - \$350.00 If interested, please contact Jim McCreary - 903-882-1982.

### Library News

Please remember to bring back the items you currently have checked out. Remember others are waiting for what you have. Thanks for your cooperation. We'll see you at the meetings.

Tom and Marjorie

## From The Editor

I just wanted to wish each and every one of you a joyous holiday season. This time of the year is sometimes a very hard time for some. If you have a friend, loved one, neighbor or even just an acquaintance who may find themselves alone during this time, invited them to participate in your celebration. They will enjoy it and so will you. Even though I lost Travis this year and I will miss him during the season, I am blessed with family and friends to help me through this time. Not everyone is so fortunate. Gifts are nice to get and receive but when you give of your self you've given an immeasurable gift of love. God bless you all for the loving support you have given to me and my family this year.

Peggy Ross

## Steering Committee Meeting Continued

- Some questions were brought up regarding the club's participation in "Wood Wonderland" and our contribution of money for prizes. It was agreed that we present this issue to the general membership of ETW, and allow the membership to vote on the extent to which we participate. Ken, Tom and Norm won prizes at the 2006 show.
- There was a discussion regarding "Benjamin's Best" bowl gouge as a raffle item. It was agreed that this become an ongoing raffle prize as long as the membership were aware that the gouge was NOT of the best quality steel.

## Thank You To A Mentor

About three years ago, I attended my first East Texas Wood Turners Association meeting and got to try my hand at turning. I remember being so nervous. Today, I am enjoying turning more than ever and I want to thank Norman Dixon of Longview who took me 'under his wing' and has been a wonderful mentor and friend. He has gone way beyond the call of duty to be my mentor and because of him; I look forward to turning for many, many years.

John Stroud, Longview

## Membership Renewal for 2007

We will begin membership renewal at the December meeting for 2007. I will have renewal forms at the December, January and February meetings. Remember the members voted at the November meeting for an increase in our annual dues from \$24.00 annually to \$36.00.

Bill

## The Empty Bowls Turning Event

For those that did not attend the Empty Bowls Turning Event on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, you missed a great day of fellowship. It is always a treat to hand out in Paul's shop; everyone should be so well equipped. We had 13 people in attendance with 7 lathes operating. A number of bowls were completed other than the finishing work and will be donated to our Civic Project. Danny King and Bill Holmes came close to putting two items in the "humble pile" but salvaged both with their experienced tool techniques. For those that were there, thank you for your interest in bringing this project close to a finish. At this time I have 202 small bowls in inventory with another 15 or 20 to be turned in. We are at a point to shift into the second phase of securing 10 to 12 larger bowls that will go into the silent auction. Again, thanks to Paul for the use of his shop and the participation of all. See everyone at the December meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

Ken Terrell

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### Store Hours

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<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.</b>

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## Letter of Appreciation and Thanks

Dear Members of ETW

I joined ETW in February of 2006 and consider this one of the wisest things I have done in several years. I wish to simply say thanks to all the officers, mentors and members who have contributed so much to making this a really great year for me. Your gifts of encouragement and instruction to a new turner are, in my view, the hallmark of a really great organization. I appreciate you all and wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Grady F. Fisher, Winnsboro, Texas

## Safety

Below are three posts to the AAW chat group that I thought would be appropriate as reminders to all of us. It's so easy to forget safety when we are so tuned in to what we are doing at the moment. Be Safe

**Safety** is something we should all be on constant alert for. Three members of my turning club were injured fairly serious in the last few months (not counting someone I know whose shirt became c/a glued to his left nipple when cutting into a glue pocket. He shall remain nameless). One was hollowing with a scraper extended far over the tool rest that broke off at the handle cutting him deeply from above the middle knuckle to the 2<sup>nd</sup> knuckle on his left hand. The next was roughing an out of round blank when her tool bounced loose. She reached to grab it, hitting the spinning wood which drove her hand down into the tool rest cutting the end of her pinkie badly. And the 3<sup>rd</sup> was going to carve with a 4" Kutz-all grinding/carver on a Die grinder. He cradled it in his arm, plugged it in only to find the switch was on, and it carved its way up his bicep. These were all upper intermediate to very experienced turners (except for the c/a glue incident) with 3 to over 12 years of experience. May all of you have many happy safe hours of turning.

I posted a safety warning to stay out of the line of fire when turning bowls and hollow vessels. I had one blow up on me. Wood looked sound and I didn't hear any funny noises. Fortunately I was turning slightly to the rear of the bowl which is my usual stance. The piece just missed my head because I was out of the line of fire or the line of trajectory if you prefer. I don't ever work when tired. Too easy to make those silly mistakes that usually just hurt the work but could just as easily end up like our friends accidents.

I try to stay scared of my angle grinder. I figure if I ever take it for granted it will bite me and I usually use a chainsaw cutter on it so it won't be nice. I have a good friend who was cutting a nail off a log with an angle grinder. The grinder exploded and cut off his little finger.

Be careful, always. If you work in wood long enough (not just turning) an accident will happen. If you followed all the safety rules maybe it will be a minor mishap. So far I've been lucky. Before I moved there was a piece of plywood over my table saw with a nasty curved gouge that simply had the words "**Think**" written on it. I could have lost a thumb in that accident but fortunately my hands were on top of the wood as it flew across the blade.

Here is a little tip my surgeon let me in on after re-attaching two fingers on my left hand several years ago. Instead of standing in front of a band saw when cutting bowl blanks, stand on the right side of the saw and do your cutting from that side. It would be very hard for the hand to come in contact with the blade that way. Try it and you'll see how well it works. I only cut from that side now.

Ed Heuslein - [heuslein@earthlink.net](mailto:heuslein@earthlink.net)

### Mentors List

<b>Tom Criswell</b>	<b>509-1042</b>	<b>Tyler</b>	<a href="mailto:tmcriswell@yahoo.com"><u>tmcriswell@yahoo.com</u></a>
<b>Tom Crosby</b>	<b>567-4701</b>	<b>Canton</b>	<a href="mailto:ctomsturnings@aol.com"><u>ctomsturnings@aol.com</u></a>
<b>Norm Dixon</b>	<b>753-6980</b>	<b>Longview</b>	<a href="mailto:normandixon@cablelynx.com"><u>normandixon@cablelynx.com</u></a>
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<b>Ken Terrell</b>	<b>839-4735</b>	<b>Whitehouse</b>	<a href="mailto:kpterrell@cox.net"><u>kpterrell@cox.net</u></a>