



TURNERS TALK

THE MID-SOUTH WOODTURNER'S GUILD





MSWG
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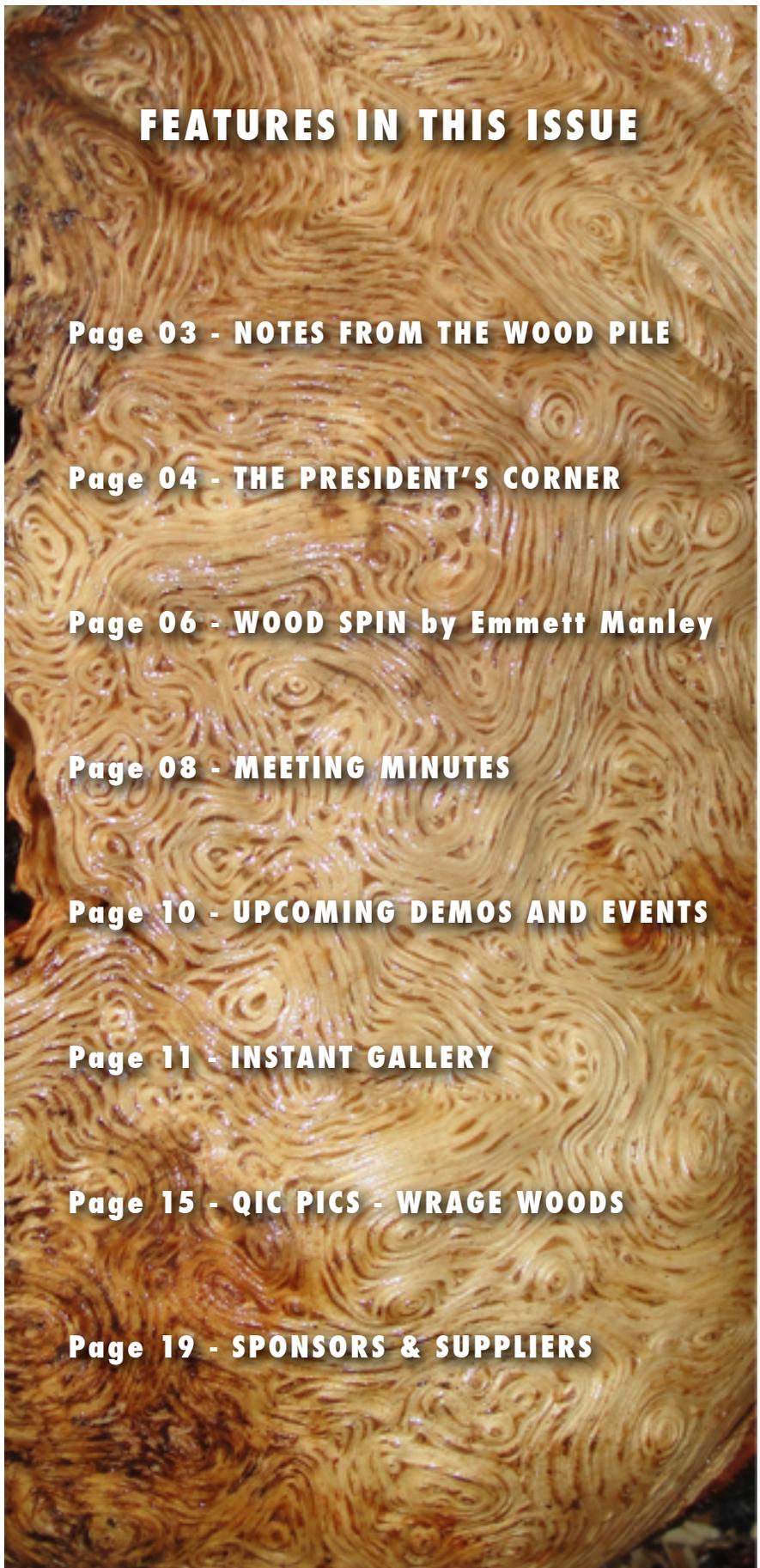
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Not too many weeks ago, Jim Tusant approached me about relieving Mike Maffitt as editor of the guild's Turners Talk newsletter and also replacing Mike as webmaster for the guild's webpage. I already knew both endeavors were excellent and both were the result of dedication of creative energy and attention to the spirit of the woodturner. Following Mike's recognition by the AAW on a national level, the bar was raised even higher. Going for back-to-back First Place newsletter and website awards will be a challenge, but its one that I gladly accept.

Putting together this issue, July 2014, I have realized that we not only have a great template to build upon, but that the greatest assets of the newsletter and webpage are the content providers. Who are they? For starters, each member who brings a turning to to each month's Instant Gallery is a contributor. We may cherish our own turnings, but I know for a certainty that we all appreciate what our fellow turners are up to. I grow by hoping to inspire others as well as being inspired in-turn by woodturners far more talented and proficient at detail than my skill set. Emmett Manley's column "Wood Spin" is always interesting, Skip will continue to find words that bring forth wisdom from the President's Corner, Thomas Wright Pillow, and Terry Maffitt are regular contributors with club news and meeting minutes. The strength of the MSWG is with its membership.

Ray Tanner's discontinued Shop Talk was always interesting to read. I really miss this feature. But, I have some ideas about new directions we can explore. In future issues, I envision a column dedicated to turning tools, lathe reviews and impressions, maybe project tips or shop enhancements. The guild has a great amount of information available in the library and online with AAW, but we can continue to showcase member efforts and contributions month to month.

This month Turners Talk introduces a page I call Qic Pics. This page is dedicated to snapshots of member activities with emphasis on the members.

My goal is to help showcase our turnings, provide a forum to acknowledge member recognitions, as well as enable any of our members with tips, advice, anecdotes relating to safety, wood turnings and woodturners, an opportunity to put their words and images into a document that can easily be viewed by all. I challenge the membership to assist me with maintaining Mike Maffitt's highest standard of excellence in continuing to make Turners Talk the newsletter it should continue to be.

**Robin
Boyd**



The President's Corner



I decided to go for a drive last month, so I jump into my car with my wife and ended up driving three days to Phoenix so as to attend the AAW annual symposium. Teaming up with us on the road was Rick and Polly Stone. Now I know some of you are saying "it's a little out of the way and too long a drive", and I thought that as well, however once the symposium got underway, it was worth it. The hardest thing to do at one of these national symposiums is to decide which rotation you want to see. The schedule is full of some of the top rated woodturners in the world. It was also necessary to spend some time and money in the vendor area as they also had world known woodturners demoing and showing some of the latest tools related to woodturning. Amongst these turners was our fellow guild member Keith Burns demonstrating in the Carter Products area, which he introduced his first DVD in hollow form turning and Keith has donated a copy to our library. Thank you Keith.

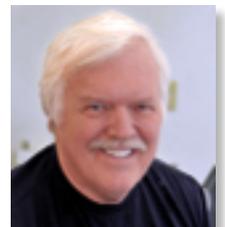
One of the social events I enjoy at the symposium is the banquet. I'm guessing there were about 1200-1300 in attendance and I'm sitting these enjoying my surroundings and the call for the best newsletter completion was called, well you gusted it "MSWG, Mike Maffitt editor" wins first place.

I go onstage to accept the plaque for Mike and begin to walk off, Dale Larson the president of AAW grabs me and says "stay here there is another one". Next category, web site and yes you guessed it again, first place AAW web site, "MSWG Mike Maffitt webmaster". Wow, what an honor to accept these awards on Mike's behalf. Congratulations Mike.

Make no mistake that Mid-South Woodturning Guild is well recognized throughout the woodturning world. Also remember that fellow guild member Sandi Speier is a member of the AAW board of directors into her second term. Thank you, Sandi for your dedication and service to AAW.

(cont. on next page.)

**Skip
Wilbur**



I tell you some of these experiences at the symposium to plant the seed of interest, I sincerely hope you get to experience a national symposium sometime during your woodturning journey. Here are a couple of things to think about, in 2015 the AAW symposium will be in Pittsburg and in 2016 it will be in Atlanta. Now some of you cannot wait that long here's a few more ideas, GAW has a symposium "Turning Southern Style" this Sept 19th in Dalton Ga. (about 6 hrs drive) and at the end of Jan TAW is having it's symposium in Franklin Tn (about 3 hours drive). As the old commercial for Motel 8 said, "we'll keep the light on for you".



<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e8w1nhu758d35727&llr=9atcwcjab>

As you may know, our club (MSWG) is affiliated with AAW (American Association of Woodturners). Through this affiliation we receive a number of benefits and services; one being insurance. I joined AAW the same time I joined MSWG and have always looked forward to receiving their 6 issues of American Woodturner annually. For a \$53/yr. membership you can receive these magazines along with many other benefits (an online member is \$43/yr.). To me the best benefit is to have access to all past issues of American Woodturner. Now, if you have a project in mind or want to learn another skill set you are able to go through the past issues on their web site, download and print off the article and carry it to your shop. Not all our members are AAW members and I'd like you to consider joining

<http://www.midsouthwoodturners.com/>

by going online at www.woodturner.org. For all of you MSWG members who are an AAW member and receive American Woodturner magazine, before you throw out an older issue, bring it to a meeting and let us put it in the library.

Turning Southern Style XX
September 19-21, 2014

Ray Key

Michael Hosaluk

Todd Hoyer



Why Do People Turn?

Originally, wood was turned strictly for utilitarian purposes: to get a needed tool handle, containers for food and water, wagon spokes, table legs, and the like. Form followed function and there was no Ellsworth to dictate turning standards. Today, we don't depend upon the village blacksmith for tools or some guy with a treadle lathe for our rice bowls; therefore, we can turn wood for other purposes. Moreover, like the six blind Indians describing an elephant after each felt a different part of the animal, we are often victims of limited individual perspectives.

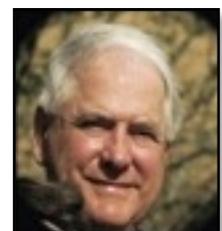
People are wired up differently, and they turn wood for many and varied reasons. My initial interest was to get a better view of the inside of trees and to learn more about trees by studying them from a different viewpoint. Woodturning has helped me understand the structure of wood: differences in grain pattern, growth rings, ease of splitting, density of wood, moisture content and rate of moisture loss, reaction to light, heat, and water, resistance to rotting and insects, acceptance of chemicals, warping, cracking, on and on. Another fascination with woodturning developed with the realization that I could rescue a piece of wood doomed to rot, burial

in a landfill, or become firewood, and make that wood into something attractive and useful and which then might live on for another 100 years. Or, making an item from a removed tree which had some special emotional or historical significance -- "memory wood" is a common term for such situations. The rescue/living on aspect of woodturning provides me with satisfaction.

And then the inside of trees can be so unbelievably beautiful -- the inherent beauty of walnut, the richness of cedar, the iridescence of adage orange, the kaleidoscope of treasures offered by spalted wood, all make woodturning much like opening Christmas presents or Mrs. Gump's box of chocolates.

(cont. on next page.)

**Emmett
Manley**



The wood itself is my primary attraction to woodturning, but there are other reasons I enjoy woodturning and for many folks, these reasons are more important than the wood. For such people, wood is but a means to some other end; whereas, for me, woodturning is a way to get to the wood, to learn more about the wood, and to appreciate the beauty revealed.

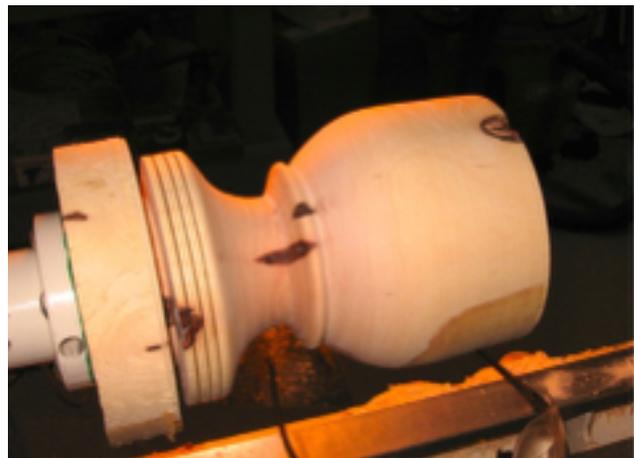


Obviously, there is the challenge presented by woodturning, which is a difficult craft-- at least it has proven to be a demanding undertaking for me. I enjoy the challenge plus the frequent opportunity for problem solving, and I often invest hours trying to salvage a piece of wood which probably should have been discarded. There are those who appear to have a knack for turning wood and who are making spectacular items within a few months. Not me. I have had to sweat out everything I have learned and then struggle to remember techniques at a later time. My notebook is the most important item in my shop and I refer to it frequently and add to it with each new project.

Still other folks focus on their wood turned product -- they care little for the inherent beauty of the wood but emphasize whether all tool marks have been removed, that the shape of the item meets whatever standard they believe is proper, how thin the walls were made, and all sorts of technical and artistic standards. To some extent, I can appreciate the emphasis of such techno-artists, but I don't feel obligated to follow their standards. I personally like heavy sturdy items as bowls with some heft and wall thickness (but I do turn some items very thin).

Men have always been fascinated by tools and getting into woodturning provides rationalization for the purchase of an almost unlimited array of tools, so this is another appeal of woodturning. Then there are those who hope to make a little money selling their products, but few make more money than their expenses and just about all woodturners keep their day jobs. Competition and blue ribbons motivate some woodturners; unfortunately, the trend seems to be that the further you stray from woodturning and the more you get into embellishments, the more acclaim you receive as a "woodturner." One hour of turning followed by 40 hours of carving/burning/painting is a common ratio these days. Excuse the revealing editorial, but more and more woodturners are coming out of the closet and declaring themselves wood artists. Not that there is anything wrong with that.

I really like the fact that wood can be turned so many different ways -- if you go duck hunting you use a shotgun, if you get in a sand trap you grab a sand wedge, but woodturners



may tackle a similar piece of wood with a spindle gouge, roughing gouge, skew, parting tool, scraper, or some other device. And they may push or pull their gouge and use their skew long point up or long point down, and never use a scraper inside a bowl, or always use a scraper inside a bowl. And everyone is certain their method is best. So, there is a lot of room for experimentation, improvisation, arguments, and using your imagination, thus more fun.

So, let's have fun while appreciating all parts of the woodturning elephant.



MEETING MINUTES

Membership Meeting - June 28, 2014

Call to Order - 9 a.m. by Skip Wilbur. Minutes were approved and seconded by club members. Skip extended a welcome to everyone.

Treasurer's Report: Matt Garner, Treasurer –

Checking Account Balance -	\$2006.99
Joan Kelly Fund -	1100.99
Education Fund -	2631.46
TOTAL -	\$5739.44

New members – The club welcomed new members, Tony Haase and Tony Haas.

School or workshop – Rick Stone reported on his attendance at the AAW Symposium staged in Phoenix, AZ June 13 - 15. Rick promoted the use of the Symposium Handout Booklet as a good source of information about many of the demonstrations. Skip Wilbur noted that a copy of the handout booklet will be placed in the Guild Library for circulation.

Special Recognitions – Mike Maffitt was recognized for winning first place for both the Web Site and Newsletter competition at the Phoenix AAW Symposium. Plaques for both honors were presented to Mike and a Resolution of Excellence was presented by Ray Tanner. The resolution was adopted by the membership expressing our appreciation for Mike's outstanding effort. The text of the resolution can be found below.

Keith Burns was recognized for his new dvd entitled "Vessel Turning with Keith Burns", a copy of which will be available to the membership in the Guild Library.

President's Promotions -

- Attendance at the TAW, the last week of January 2015 is encouraged.
- Attendance at "Turning Southern Style" presented by the Georgia Association of Woodturners September 19-21 in Dalton, Georgia.
- Pen turners were encouraged to follow through on the *Pens for Troops* program. MSWG will give a discount certificate for every five pens individual members bring in to the program. Due date is October Fest. Matt Garner will keep records for certificate distribution.
- Please read the article in the *American Woodturner* published by the AAW regarding the injury sustained by fellow woodturner Lynne Yamaguchi, or go to her website at <http://www.lynnemaguchi.com>. The details about Lynn's accident are a *must read* for all.

(cont. on next page.)

**THOMAS
WRIGHT
PILLOW**



President's Promotions (cont.)

- Terry Reynolds is relocating out of state and may still have some tools for sale.

Demonstration -

Rick Gillespie - Turning Surprise Egg



Keith Burns - Demonstration of the "Perfect Sphere Jig"



Field Trip - A field trip to Wrage Woods custom sawing, lumber, and kiln located at 2807 Ferris View near the international airport was scheduled after the June 28 meeting. Please review the pictures of the trip on the *qic pics* page in this issue of Turner's Talk.

Information Cards - Business cards were distributed to members for use in the recruitment of prospective new members to the Guild.

Raffle

Adjourn - 11:45 am

Recognition of Excellence

Whereas Mike Maffitt has consistently produced a quality monthly newsletter for our guild;

Whereas he has included self-made photographs of all items submitted for our gallery;

Whereas he has included articles keeping our members aware of advancements in our hobby, safe practices for turning, introduction of new members, reviews of shop features, and a current calendar of events;

Whereas he has kept our guild's website up to date and structured it to contain attractive, useful and easily accessible information for all our members; and

Whereas he has performed all these actions faithfully, utilizing his own funds, effort and time - thus displaying a high degree of professionalism and devotion to the entire guild; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Mid-South Woodturners Guild acknowledges and recognizes his generous and outstanding effort by a unanimous vote of thanks and approbation for Mike's more than four years as editor and webmaster, thus seconding the American Association of Woodturners recent awards of First Place among all newsletters and First Place among all websites submitted for the annual contests from more than 350 chapters.

Skip Wilbur, President

June 28, 2014

Upcoming Demos & Events

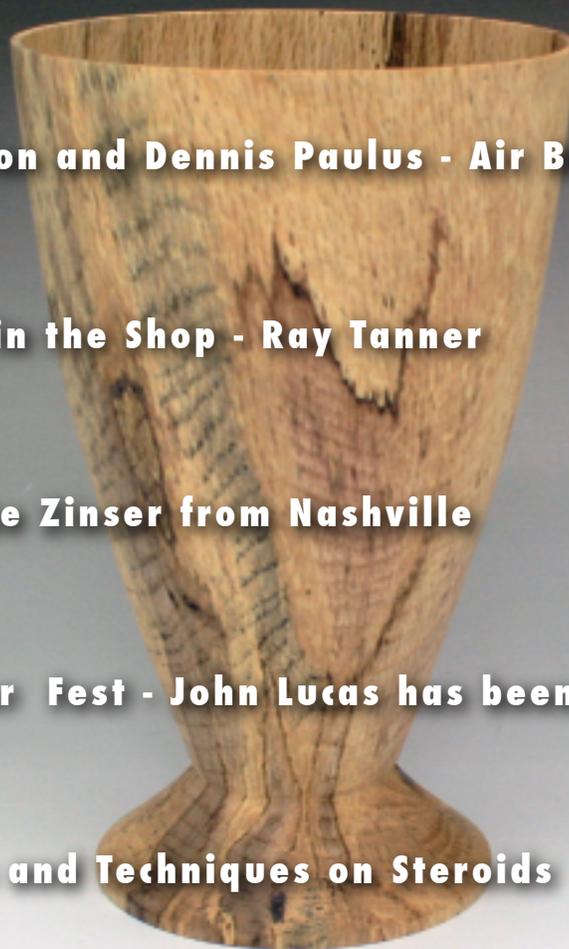
July - Larry Sefton and Dennis Paulus - Air Brush Techniques

August - Safety in the Shop - Ray Tanner

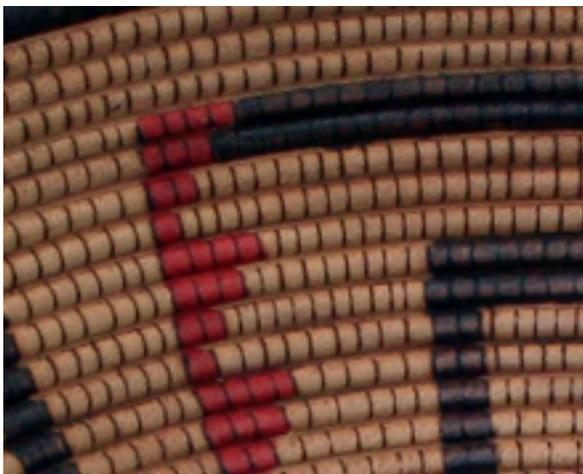
September - Mike Zinser from Nashville

October - October Fest - John Lucas has been invited

November - Tips and Techniques on Steroids



INSTANT GALLERY



LARRY SEFTON
Two Sisters Bowl.



(cont. on next page.)



RICK GILLESPIE
Basket of Eggs.



RICK GILLESPIE
Eggs in a Carton..

(cont. on next page.)



JIM ADKINS
Maple Basket.



JIM ADKINS
Maple Platter.



CLIFF VALENTINE
Hat Stand.

(cont. on next page.)



MIKE RAWLINGS
Oak Vase.



ROBIN BOYD
Osage Orange Shallow Bowl.



JOE HAGAN
Sweet Gum Bowl.



JOE HAGAN
Box Elder Bowl.



JOE HAGAN
Mimosa Bowl.

Qic Pics - Wrage Woods



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