



**The November 8th BAWA Meeting will be devoted to Christmas Ornaments
Four turners will demonstrate how they make their ornaments.
The meeting will also feature the club competition.**

President's Message
Harvey Klein

Fellow Woodturners,

I would personally like to thank all of you who contributed to the senior centers craft fair. It was very much appreciated and they were very pleased with all our projects we contributed. Thanks Again

I would also like to remind you of the competition this coming meeting please check the newsletter for the categories. It would be nice to see a lot of the newer members participate and also more of the older members.

Please remember the December meeting is our annual Christmas party and gift exchange for those who wish to participate. For the newer members the gift exchange should be turning related, or even a turning, give something like you would like to receive.

This year is coming fast to a close and I would like to take time to thank all of you for your support over the past year, it has made my job much easier and I could not have done it with out you. I would especially like to thank all of the directors and board members for all their efforts and hard work. It is these efforts that make our club what it is. Thanks again it has been a privilege and a pleasure.

Have fun turning and look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Harvey

November Meeting

The format for the November meeting will be a little different. We plan to setup four of our mini lathes, and Wayne Cowden, Jim Abreu, Jim Rodgers and Jerry Decker will demonstrate how they make Christmas ornaments.

November is also the month for our biannual club competition. Categories are:

- Natural Edge Bowl
- Multi-Axis Turning
- Box w/Threaded Lid
- Footstool
- Flower
- Segmented Turning
- Mixed Media

Competition levels are Novice, Advanced and Professional.

For those participating in the cooperative candle stick project,

Leo's Corner
Leo Lichtman

This column is going to be kind of "ad hoc." I have a few disconnected thoughts and ideas, which are not enough in themselves to make a column. So, let me share a few of my thoughts.

Our group is gaining new members all the time. And, much of what we do is directed toward this end. Our presence at fairs, and shows, and certainly, our teaching program, all serve to attract more members. Is there an ideal size for a group like ours? Can we get too big too fast? As the membership grows, the composition of the group

tends to shift also. As the group swells with eager new novices, I notice a tendency for many of the old-timers, with

Continued page 3

Bill Small Says Thanks!

I want to thank the membership for selecting me to lead our club next year. BAWA is an important part of my life. I enjoy the friends that I have in the club and the fun times we have together. I realize that everything I have learned about woodturning in some way can be traced back to the club. For me, time invested in BAWA pays rich dividends. I think Hal Bain, Robert Whitworth and Jim Rodgers have similar feelings.

BAWA has grown into a strong organization over the last several years. We have a strong membership and are financially secure. Our monthly demonstrations are both educational and entertaining (just reflect on Linda Slater's presentation in October and Barbara McGuire's in September). In the past two years, we have ventured out in the community with exhibits, demonstrations and a teaching program. In November, we will have our first major charity event (the Senior Center Craft Fair). We are even getting national recognition with articles in the American Woodturner magazine. We have our past directors to thank for these many accomplishments.

Hal, Robert, Jim and I want to keep the club moving forward. BAWA is your club. Tell us what you would like to see the club do. Tell us what would be fun - and educational - for you. I think 2004 will be a great year.

Bill



The Bay Area Woodturner's Association 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 Association meets the second Saturday of each month at the Senior Center in San Ramon. The Association periodically sponsors exhibitions and demonstration by local and internationally known turners.

President:
Harvey Klein
h.e.klein@sbcglobal.net

Vice President:
Robert Whitworth
Hdhuunter9@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer:
Del Morissette
delmorissette@comcast.net

Secretary:
Jim Rodgers
jlrodgers@aol.com

Librarian:
Gene Pitkin

Membership:
Rich Bonnington
richnvc@cnonline.net
925-228-0271

Historian/Webmaster:
Dave MacDonald
dmacdon@pacbell.net

Editor:
Fred Deadrick
fdeadrick@comcast.net

Member-at-Large:
J. Wayne Shipman
jwshipman@attbi.com

Community Service
Bill Small
williamsbill@comcast.net

BAWA Officers Meeting Notice

BAWA Board of directors meetings are held at Denica's Cafe (in the same center as WoodCraft) 8AM to 9:30AM. On the day of the scheduled club meeting. Board meetings are open to all members. Contact Harvey Klein if you would like to be on the agenda.

Presidents Challenge 2003

January: *Pen*

February: *Turned box*

March: *Candle sticks*

April: *Plate or Platter*

May: *Members competition*

June: *Segmented vessel*

July: *A pair of hair sticks*

August: *Natural edge something*

September: *Small blank shal-
lenge. Each person starts with
the same size blank and we see
what he or she can come up with*

October: *An inlay of something
other than wood.*

November: *Members competi-
tion*

December: *Ornaments*

The President's Challenge is organized to prepare members for our club competitions. The next club competition to be held in November will consist of the following categories:

- Natural Edge Bowl
- Multi-Axis Turning
- Box w/Threaded Lid
- Footstool
- Flower
- Segmented Turning
- Mixed Media

Competition is grouped into three skill levels: Novice, Advanced, and Professional.

Club Meeting Dates & Topics 2003

January 11: Turning a box
Robert Whitworth

February 8: Wood finishing.
Ron Ashby

March 8: Thread Chasing.
Dick Jessing

April 12: Stave bowl construction.
Jim Rodgers

May 10: Vacuum chucking.
Richard Sherry

June 14: Turning in Mexico.
Jesus Morales/Lou Gonzalez

July 12: Darth Vader Box.
Don White

August 9: Photographing Your Turnings, Shipman, Small, Deadrick

September 13: Polymer Clay
by Barbara McGuire

October 4 (1st Sat.): Segmented Turning; *Linda Salter*

November 8: Christmas Ornaments. Club Competition

December 6 (1st Sat.): Christmas party

Note the 1st Saturday dates for October and December meetings!

BAWA Newsletter November 2003

Leo's Corner continued from page 1

highly developed skills, and gallery-quality work, to drift away. Does anyone else see this as a problem, or is it just me?

On another topic, I think we do not get the full potential for group interaction out of our group activities. Whenever we have a group project, I think we should have THREE tables in our meeting program—"Show and tell," "The President's Challenge," and "The Group Project." Members should be encouraged to bring their work in progress, and completed work to be seen and discussed by the group. We would discuss what's done, what remains to be done, what new ideas are being explored, what gaps need to be filled. Everyone will see things building to a climax, and more people will be inspired to participate.

I'm not saying things are not good. I'm just wondering, could they be better? Or is it just me?

Recently, Silicon Valley Woodturners invited BAWA to share in one of their weekend demos. I, along with several other BAWA members attended. They have just issued another such invitation, to attend a demo by Mike Mahoney. My check is going into the mail tomorrow. I wonder why BAWA does not invite other clubs to OUR demos. Certainly we are not short of space. Furthermore, if we could generate greater attendance, we could lower the fee, and probably increase the attendance by our own members as well. But, most importantly, I look for ways for the clubs to interact, and mingle, and share activities. Since the future of the group picnic is in such doubt, shouldn't we be exploring other areas, like sharing of demos? And, shouldn't we be as nice to them as they are to us?

As an aside, it might be noted that the reason Westbay does not open their demos to other clubs is a shortage of space. On the other hand, you could join Westbay for \$25 a year, and attend all their demos for nothing (usually.)

Show & Tell

- Jim Abrew—Small segmented Goblet
- Harvey Klein—Christmas Ornaments
- Brad Adams—Handled Bowls of Walnut & Camphor
- Steve Miller—Segmented Bowls
- Jerry Decker—Goblets
- Dan Curtis—5 Bowls



Wood Raffle



- Brad Adams—Sycamore, Bay Laurel, Oak
- Harvey Klein—Oak, Cedar
- Fred Deadrick—Sycamore, Birch
- Robert Whitworth—Carob, Ebony, Bocote
- Wayne Shipman—Black Locust
- Jerry Decker—Alder
- Andrew Baxter—Modesto Ash, Juniper

Senior Center Craft Fair

As many of you know the Senior Center Craft Fair was held last weekend. Thank you to all of the members that donated work to the center. After pricing the items at craft fair prices, we realized the members contributed about \$6000 worth of turned items. Way to go team! The center director was very pleased.

Thanks again!

Yours Truly, Hal Bain, Chairman



Woodturning in Germany

Fred Deadrick, Editor

I'm putting this month's BAWA newsletter together while on vacation visiting my wife's family in Hamburg, Germany. While in Germany, we usually take some time out to visit other parts of the country, and this year we took an 8-day tour of the Thuringen region (famous for Thuringer bratwurst) of the former DDR (East Germany). This part of Germany is particularly significant as a historic center of culture and the arts in medieval times. It is where Martin Luther wrote his thesis which led to the beginning of the Protestant church, and it is also where Johann Sebastian Bach and Franz Liszt lived, along with German scholars and writers like Goethe and Shiller. An incredible amount of restoration and reconstruction has been done since the fall of Russian control in Eastern Germany in 1989. We often think of ourselves as great craftsmen with all our power tools and equipment, but one only needs to look at the beautiful workmanship in the cathedrals, buildings, and castles, many of which are well over 500 years old, to put things in their proper perspective.

White Oak, Beech, Fir, Maple, Ash, and Birch trees are very common in the forests of the region. About 1km from where I am staying I spotted a huge burl on a large old Beech tree, and I have found many smaller burls while walking through the forests in this area. Small sawmills are also quite common in the rural areas. In the East, many of the old buildings are of timber frame construction, some with slate tiles on the outside, others with a form of stucco, while in the West they are mainly of brick construction.

Since the theme of this month's meeting is on Christmas decorations, I thought I would show some turned Christmas items I spotted in the stores as examples of German craft. The first picture shows some Santa-like characters, which look to be quite easy to turn. I think the feet are simply made from a cylinder cut in half, and the head is also a pointed cylinder attached to the body. The cap looks to be a separate turning lued to the head at a slight angle. The little fellows with the black hats on the left side sell for about \$30, while the small Santas sell for \$19 to \$25, with the big Santa going for \$85!

One of the traditional German Christmas items that have always intrigued me is known as a German Pyramid. Shown below left is one of the smaller pyramids. Candles are placed around the bottom of the pyramid, and the flow of hot air past the top propeller makes the little display on the bottom platform rotate. The small pyramids are about 12 inches high, while the larger ones are about 24 or more inches high. Again, most of these parts look to be well suited for production on the lathe. A simple pyramid sells for about \$50, while a bit more elaborate one, shown at the right, was selling for nearly \$700. (Not sure if it really works with electricity.)



The last holiday item I saw was a Christmas tree made like that shown in the figure to the right. I'm not quite sure how they are made, but it would be a good challenge to make one. I seem to recall Mike Darlow describing how to make them in one of his books.

In general, you won't see a lot of turned items in the stores. I did see an exhibit of several turned bowls, one by Hans Weissflog, in Hamburg's museum of Arts and Crafts. Maybe Germany is a good market venue for some enterprising sole!



For Sale Ralph Ramirez — 618 Walnut Street, Petaluma, CA 94952 — (707) 762-5292

- Sears Craftsman 10" Tablesaw, includes legs, 2 table extensions, with 1 H.P. Capacitor start motor, machined pulleys.
- Biesmeyer 44" T-Square saw fence w/table extension (\$350 new) — Grip-Tite Magnetic Featherboard (\$30 new)
- Excaliber Sommerville Design Over-Arm blade cover (like new, older model with square tubing-\$200+ new)
- 2 yellow Board Buddies (hold down plus prevents kickback), mounting hardware installed on the Biesmeyer fence (\$70 new)

Total price for all the above items \$300—See to appreciate! *Not sold individually*



2870 Creston Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Address
Correction
Requested