

As The Burl Turns

Bi-Monthly Publication of the Central Oklahoma Woodturners Association



A progressive chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

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<http://www.woodturner.org>

<http://www.okwoodturners.net>

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Toxic Woods—Probably not at the forefront of woodturning in many shops, but a serious topic indeed! Are you working with toxic wood? If you have encountered *any* problems related to toxic wood, I want to hear from you. See Page 2!!!



COWA once again held demonstrations at the Oklahoma State Fair on September 24th and 25th in the *Hobbies, Arts and Crafts* building at the State Fair Grounds. Pictures from this years' event can be found on page 7 in this issue. The demonstration is a great crowd pleaser and a

lot of fun to participate in. Enjoy the photos, *courtesy of Kathy Jekel*.

COWA extends a big **THANK YOU** to those who take care of the detail items for us. **Becky Bates** for taking care of the coffee, **Carl Shortt** for taking our photos for show and tell, **John Ashworth**, our videographer, and all of you who assist in the woodturning classes. The club extends this note of thanks to you for your dedication to the task. **WE APPRECIATE YOU!**

Wood Finishes are often custom mixed by woodturners, and many turners have their own unique mixture for finishing a turned masterpiece. I am looking for 'homemade' finishes our members use. Please jot down how you mix the finish, how it is applied, and if you are partial to the finish on a certain kind of wood or project. Email me (COWAEditor@cox.net) or bring your submission to our next Club meeting.

Calendar

November	5th	Woodturning, Turning a Peppermill	Moore Norman Technology Center, Norman OK
	8th	Club Meeting	Metro Technology Center South Bryant Campus
	16th—17th	Youth Bowl Class	Demonstration by Kevin Basset, Dallas Area Woodturners Moore Norman Technology Center, Norman OK
December	3rd	Christmas Ornament Class	Moore Norman Technology Center, Norman OK
	6th	Board of Directors Meeting	
	9th	COWA Christmas Party	New Covenant United Methodist Church of Edmond
	13th	Club Meeting	Metro Technology Center South Bryant Campus
January	10th	Club Meeting	Metro Technology Center South Bryant Campus

Visit COWA's official website for the latest club information. <http://www.okwoodturners.net>

By Karen Robinson

As a beginner, I looked at the price of wood and asked myself how the heck could I afford this “hobby.” But since joining the club, I’ve found more sources for wood than I know what to do with.

Free wood is the best wood. There is nothing better than FOG wood (found on ground). Sometimes I even see piles of it sitting on the curb to be picked up and destroyed. Practicing is the most important thing a beginner can do and you would want to do this with your FOG wood.

FIBOP wood (found in back of pickup) is the next best place to get wood. We have generous members that have wood they are willing to sell for the right price of *free!*

Besides in a pickup or on the ground, you can also find wood at construction sites (be extra cautious of nails in the wood.) Not too long ago, member Darell Cookman brought in a turned *plywood* piece.

The only limitation on your turnings is you!



Woodturning Safety—Toxic Wood

Did you know that wood dust can make you ill? Wood dust can irritate the sensitive mucous membranes of your nose and eyes, causing you to sneeze and tear up. Dust from some woods such as western cedar and rosewood can be especially bothersome. Other woods like black locust, cocobolo, ebony, oleander, satinwood, sequoia, and yew can cause rashes ranging from redness and itching to blisters.

If you are allergy prone then look out! Working with some woods for extended periods of time, from as little as 5 days to 8 months or longer, may cause an allergic reaction. These woods include cypress, balsam fir, beech, birch, elm, greenheart, mahogany, maple, myrtle, redwood, sassafras, spruce, walnut, willow, western red cedar, and teak.

Molds frequently trigger reactions too. One extremely potent mold that grows in wood is *Cryptostroma corticale*. This mold lives between the bark and sapwood of many hardwood trees, especially favoring maple and birch. It is responsible for the marbled spalling that many woodturners prize.

If you have an aspirin allergy, be wary of willow and birch. These species possess significant concentrations of salicylic acid and very sensitive individuals might only need casual exposure, such as a whiff of sawdust, to react.

What to do? Bottom line: ensure that you work in a well ventilated area, and wear good respiratory protection when you work in the shop. Avoid unseasoned wood and wash and shower frequently. If you develop persistent rashes or respiratory problems, be sure to contact your health care provider.

Source: Wood/Dust Toxicity Edited by Bruce Campbell

“http://islandwoodturners.ca/documents/wooddust_toxicity.html”



NEXT MEETINGS TUESDAY NOVEMBER 8TH AND DECEMBER 13TH 6:30PM MTC—SBC

President's Skew

a few syllables from the president of COWA

By Jim Clow

Hi All!

Hourglass Competition 2011 At Beavers Bend

COWA entered two pieces in the *Hourglass Competition* recently at Beavers Bend. One piece was awarded first place by the judges. We receive the \$500 first place prize money, a welcome addition to our Treasury. The other piece received honorable mention and we received a \$20 gift certificate to Packard Supply. [see Hourglass Competition on page 5]

Thanks to all who participated in this collaborative project!!

November Meeting

Demonstrating at the November meeting will be Kevin Basset from the Dallas Area Woodturners. He has demonstrated in many places and has been chosen to donate a piece for the SWAT 2 for 1 raffle. It should be very interesting.

Choctaw Spin Top Progress

We are making great progress in our goal of creating inventory for the spin top effort at Choctaw!! Keep up the effort and get your name placed into the hat for the drawing for a 2012 AAW electronic membership. When you turn in your first 20 colored tops, your name is entered into a drawing to be held in December for an AAW annual electronic membership (\$38 value). Additional entries into the pot will be awarded for each additional lot of 15 colored tops you turn in. This is the best odds of winning something in a contest that you will have.

Please bring your tops to the registration table at the club meetings.

Successful State Fair Demonstration

We had another successful demonstration on the last week end at the State Fair! The administrators were very complimentary of all of the woodturning activities! We had over 25 members who participated in the demo over the week end.

Again, Thanks to all who signed up and participated!!

Beavers Bend Fall Fest—Friday Through Sunday November 11-13

Butch Lindsey will head up COWA's effort at Beavers Bend this year. The program will be similar to the one last year. The Broken Bow club will set up three lathes for all to turn on. We should schedule the times we want to turn and they will fill in the vacant time slots from local turners.

They have suggested that we pick smaller turnings that can be given to the public that may be observing the demonstration versus trying to make items for sale.

(President's Skew continued on page 4)

A table will again be in the hallway where you can display any turnings offered for sale that you may want to bring. If you have sale items, you are expected to share the duties of the sales table.

Turning Classes Scheduled For The Fall Season

Winter classes have been scheduled at the Moore Norman Technology Center (MNT) and are project-based this time. Projects have been chosen that will be of wide spread interest to the entire membership.

These classes should be fun for all! Check out the classes on the website or in MNT program guide.

Youth Classes Planned

The workshop committee has completed a pen class for youth at MNT, and is planning another bowl class later in November. In addition, a pen class was also completed for the students at the Metro Technology Center South Bryant Campus (MTC-SBC) where we have our meetings.

We will need volunteers to accomplish the goals we have planned. Our club is blessed with the participation of many volunteers in our ambitious demonstrations and educational efforts.

The look on faces of especially the youth and the pride in completing a turned piece is worth the efforts by all of us!

Inventory Items For Sale By Saint Luke Methodist Is Getting Closer

I will deliver the inventory you have submitted in early November. It will be returned to me in early January and I will bring unsold items to the January meeting. A 20% commission will be retained by the church.

COWA Christmas Party—New Location And Format

We are going to have the Christmas party on Friday December 9th from 6:30 PM to 9 PM. We have outgrown the Spencer location. The new location this year will be in the New Covenant United Methodist Church at 2700 South Boulevard in Edmond. It is located one mile east of Broadway extension in between 33rd and 15th streets (old Henderson Hills Baptist location) on the east side of the street. Go to the back of the buildings on the south side of the church campus and enter the gymnasium in either door. You can park in the lots close to gym.

The club will provide BBQ pork ribs and brisket, water, coffee and tea. If you want anything else to drink please bring your own.

Please be prepared to sign up at the November meeting what side dish or desert you can bring.

There will be a Christmas ornament contest with a \$25 prize voted for the best ornament. The ornaments need to be mostly turned to qualify.

The gift exchange will be slightly different this year. Every turning will be displayed. When you arrive you will receive a ticket for every gift you bring. We will select an item and a number will be called (similar to the raffle drawings) to distribute the turnings. This way, everyone will be able to see all the turnings and who receives what turning.

Hourglass Competition

The hourglass competition, sponsored by the Southeast Oklahoma Woodworkers, consisted of 8 or 9 hourglasses, two of which were submitted by COWA members collaborating on the projects. Pictured to the right is the one that took the cake. The cake? A \$500 stash of cash!



The team of members working on the winning hourglass included: Dewayne Colwell, chairman, Bob Jarrett first draft designer, Carol Colwell, Darrell Cookman, Phil Hoar and Phil Lokken. Great Job, and beautiful hourglass!!!

KNOW YOUR TURNER

Story and Photos by Weed Liiketonoh

Your Name Here

Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and I would like to tell everyone about your woodturning shop. You undoubtedly have a unique set of equipment that all of our members want to read about and see pictures of. I want to show everyone the pile of wood and those turning chips all over the shop. Have you one of the hottest and most coveted tools in the wood turning industry? I especially want to show everyone pictures of you with that tool in hand and print the story of how you can turn anything from cannonballs to toothpicks with it.

Maybe you have a real *wood* lathe (below).



Perhaps you have a *monster* lathe just sitting around in your back yard (above).



Do you just happen to have one of these babies tucked away in your shop (left)?



You've got the story —

WE WANT TO READ IT!!!

Contact Virgil Young. *He knows what to do!!!*

Club Officers

President	Jim Clow	(405) 293-9388	jclow@cox.net	4054 Prairie Falcon Pointe Edmond OK 73034
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	Bob Weaver	(405) 947-7772	bobweaver@cox.net	4917 NW 17th Okla City OK 73127
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Supporting Volunteers

Photographer	Carl Shortt			
Videographer	John Ashworth			
Librarian	Karen Robinson	(405) 802-4613	karenp_is@yahoo.com	
Editor	Russell McLelland	(405) 728-8678	COWAEditor@cox.net	

Woodturners Toolbox

Moore Norman Technology Center (MNT) is located at 4701 12th Avenue NW in Norman Oklahoma 73089. Enrollment and Information Center (405) 364-5763. Woodturning classes are generally \$49.00 each and enrollment is limited, so register early!

Metro Technology Center South Bryant Campus (MTC-SBC) is located at 4900 S Bryant in Oklahoma City. Going North or South on I-35, exit on SE 44th Street and go East a mere over 1.5 miles to S Bryant. Turn South (right) on S Bryant, and go about 1/3 mile. The campus is located on the West side of S Bryant.

COWA club meetings start at 6:30 on the second Tuesday of every month (weather permitting!) at the Metro Technology Center South Bryant Campus (address and directions above) in the Auto Training Auditorium. Annual membership dues are \$30.00.

COWA Board of Directors meet quarterly on the 1st Tuesday of the months of March, June, September and December. Special meetings may be called at any time.

COWA maintains a Video Library which is made available to members of the club at each club meeting. Members may check out up to 5 selections at a time. The selections should be returned at the following meeting. Club Librarian, Karen Robinson, maintains a Check-out/Check-in list at each meeting where members note their selections and returns.

Librarian's Gouge

Librarian's recommended DVD

By Karen Robinson

The library has acquired new DVD's on segmenting. The DVD's "Segmented Vases and Urns" is hosted by Don Russell and Rob Brown. It is the new revised and expanded edition of 4 hours and 32 minutes. This collection is on 3 separate disks. It has tips and tricks, staved bases, fine tuning your saw, making boxes and making flowers plus much more.

We have several other DVD's on segmenting that are ready to be checked out at our next meeting.

Submit your ideas, tips, experiences, techniques and anything else that may be of interest to the general membership to: COWAEditor@cox.net. Material that includes pictures should be submitted on CD, DVD or flash drive. Your contributions make the newsletter! Deadline for submitting newsletter contributions is two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting of the months of February, April, June, August, October and December unless special arrangements are made with the editor.

State Fair Photos



Turners Build International Relations

By Bill White

Central Oklahoma Woodturners Association (COWA) members hosted six Chinese students in a one day bowl turning class. The students are attending Oklahoma University working on PhDs in research science. COWA members Dewayne Colwell, Bob Jarrett, Michael Reggio, Wayne Furr, and Bill White gave personal instruction in turning a maple bowl with a segmented ring of cherry, paduak, or zebrawood. Turning the 8 to 9 inch bowls were Li Wei, Chen Jiahi, Jiang Yuchas, Kang Minhua, Guo Ding, and Zheng Haita, all of China. Also attending the day long session was Nella White of Norman, their English teacher.

All students reported great happiness with learning the new skills of bowl turning in Dewayne Colwell's shop. Li Wei said, "Getting to make a bowl was great fun as was meeting several new friends from the turning club." The students previous experience was limited to turning ink pens with Bill White. The students wanted to share with the entire club their appreciation for the bowl lessons and new friendships in America.

