



Crosscut

Newsletter of the Witwatersrand Woodworkers' Association
PO Box 411346, Craighall, 2024

Platter by Nick Agar, from <http://www.turningintoart.com>

Secretary: Kenneth Jackson (kennethj@mweb.co.za 083 256 1823) (replace AT with @ to email)
Editor: Trevor Pope (tpope@iafrica.com). All written content and opinions are those of the editor, unless stated. © Copyright reserved. Go to <http://mysite.mweb.co.za/residents/tpope/homepage.html> for back issues of *Crosscut*.

Next General Club Meeting on Wednesday, the 10th June 2009 from 18h00 at the WWA clubhouse at REEA. Denis Lock will talk on Jigs, guides, gauges and other useful things. Why do we need jigs? Jig categories. Materials and hardware for jigs. Jig examples.

Next Turner's monthly meeting is on Monday, the 1st June 2009 at 18h00 at the WWA clubhouse at REEA. Rick Florence will be doing a demo on how to turn small bowl with his way of doing a quick finish. He will also show how to turn an acorn box.

News

May General Club Meeting.

Clive Stacey gave his chairman's report, and noted the healthy state of the club. He explained our concerns over the long-term future of the REEA and our premises, and explained the measures we are taking to set aside funds as a contingency in case we have to move.

Glen Lopich gave the treasurer's report in which he showed our healthy finances and how we are ensuring that we are creating a contingency reserve.

To encourage members to renew promptly, there will be a prize draw for all those renewing before the end of June 2009, with the draw at the July Main-club meeting with a prize of a R350- H/W centre voucher. The draw will be based on receipt numbers, but you need not be present to claim your prize, as our Treasurer Glenn will use his receipt book.

Clive Stacey gave a demonstration on the making of oval Shaker boxes, showing the basic steps to making a box from cutting out the wood, bending it, riveting the sides and pinning the top and bottom to the sides. For riveting special copper tacks are used. Clive sourced these from the USA. If you are interested, he will try to source some more.

(See <http://www.shakerovalbox.com/catalog/2003%20Catalog.pdf> for more info. Clive was using the #2 size.)

The 2009/2010 main club committee members and their contact details are listed here:

Chairman	Clive Stacey	083 407 8008	stacey AT netactive.co.za
Secretary	Ken Mutch	082 806 7693	ken.woodman AT gmail.com
Treasurer	Glenn Lopich	082 442 7792	glenn_laura AT iafrica.com
Editor -	Trevor Pope – until a replacement can be found.	083 388 2214	tpope AT iafrica.com
Member	Karen Fairfield	083 879 6729	klfairfield AT telkomsa.net
Member	Tom Howden	082 320 1712	tomjane AT vodamail.co.za
Member	Richard van Dyk	011 624 2523	Richard AT jgtrain.co.za
Turner's Rep.	Ken Mutch – as above		

May Turner's Meeting.

Dries Blignaut was awarded the Ray Magid Woodturner of the year trophy for 2009.

The wood of the month was Eucalyptis Grandis, the Sydney Bluegum. Chris van Heswijk compiled the presentation, but as he was unable to attend, John Somersvine talked through it on his behalf. The meeting contained two talks by Lionel Soekoe and Peter Middleton on the subject of sharpening; something that is important for beginners, because without sharp tools you cannot turn and you need to sharpen often, so it is one of the first skills to master. Lionel and Peter gave some practical tips on equipment and demonstrated some basic sharpening principles.

The members of the 2009/2010 turner's section committee are:

Chairman	Steve Barrett	083 556 2690	steven.barrett AT liberty.co.za
Secretary	John Somersvine	078 800 9156	svine AT global.co.za
Treasurer	George Simpson	072 783 3702	gfsimpson AT sentechsa.com
Members	Chris van Heeswijk	082 469 2964	chrisvh AT goldfields.co.za
	Ken Mutch	082 806 7693	ken.woodman AT gmail.com
	Barries Badenhorst	083 558 2766	barries AT lantic.net
	Herman Potgieter	083 631 0501	herman.potgieter AT lodox.com

The **Pretoria Woodturner's** open meeting was a success, even though attendance from WWA was poor. Leon Langenhoven's workshop contains a fascinating collection of old machines, including 10 lathes ranging from a small treadle lathe to a massive four ton pattern maker's lathe. Most of the lathes are in working condition, with a couple in the process of being restored. There was a crit session followed by a ten minute turning competition, a flight-test competition of the wooden Frisbees and finally a braai. Those who failed to make the trek over the Jukskei missed some fun. The



pictures show (from left to right) the flight testing, Leon's Wadkin pattern-makers lathe, and the display table.

From the committee:

Pottery. The tri-annual Clay Festival took place at the Berario Recreation Centre on the 16th and 17th May 2009. A combination of exhibitions, seminars and hands-on workshops took place that gave a broad exposure to many aspects of pottery. It showed how accessible pottery can be to all ages and skill levels. There is a well-established base of professional potters (they seem to prefer the term ceramicists) with a base of teaching studios and galleries that the wood turners can but envy. Just as wood-turners try to break away from "round and brown" so do potters try to break away from "brown, hairy pots". There were some wonderfully light airy pieces on display that showed some real imagination. (See www.ceramics.org.za for details of future events.)

Woodturning Magazine's 200th issue. The editor of Woodturning lists some of the work that made the most impression on him, together with contact details of many of the artists. I have listed a few here, with Web sites.

Stuart Batty: www.stubatty.com
Christian Burchard: www.burchardstudio.com
David Ellsworth: www.ellsworthstudios.com
Melvyn Firmager: www.melvynfirmager.co.uk
Cindy Drozda: www.cindydrozda.com
John Jordan: www.johnjordanwoodturning.com
Mick O'Donnell: www.woodturninguk.com
Rolly Munro: www.rollymunro.co.nz
David Nittmann: www.davidnittmann.com
Stuart Mortimer: www.stuarmortimer.com

If you are casting about for ideas for your next signature piece, particularly before the AWSA congress, you might find some ideas here to combine into something of your own. There are many more listed in the magazine. If you aren't inspired after looking through some of these sites and ones I have listed below, perhaps you should try macramé instead?

. Another resource is the AAW gallery, which can be found at <http://www.woodturner.org> which has hundreds of images to browse through.

One well defined creative process used by artists is to look at unrelated objects for inspiration in the creative process. This is documented by pairs of pictures of the inspiring image and the final creation, for a number of artists here: <http://www.woodturner.org/products/aw/influences/index.htm>

Please Note:

Toymakers. The toymakers meet on the first and third Mondays of every month, at 09h00 till 12h00 at the clubhouse. Contact Eddie Marchio on (011) 678-8062 or [renato AT pixie.co.za](mailto:renato@pixie.co.za) for more information.

Wednesday Workshop. The Wednesday evening workshops are on the first and third Wednesdays of every month, from 18h00 till 20h00. Contact Winston Klein on (011) 674-1513 for more information.

For Sale:

Woodworking **tuition wanted** for a 16 year old boy – contact John Speedy on 083 359 3149 or [jospedy AT iafrica.com](mailto:jospedy@iafrica.com) if you are able help

2009 Association of Woodturners of South Africa Congress – 02 to 05 July in Pietermaritzburg.

In addition to the regular features of the Raffle, Auction and Dinner, the program promises to be interesting, with some of the following demonstrations:

- **Nick Agar**, (see <http://www.turningintoart.com> and picture at right from the site) the 2009 Guest Turner will demonstrate
 - **Multi Centre Wall Sculpture**; Consideration of design, use of colour texture and power carving, some hollowing, tool grinds and safety. (An example from his web site=>)
 - **Burnt and bronzed bowl / vessel**; Turning tips, scorching, carving with angle grinder, colouring with wax effects, safety
 - **Decorative Shield / ceramic bowl effect** Many different surface enhancements; Carving, power carving with mini arbortech, colouring, lime wax over colour, texture tools
 - **Power point presentation by Nick of his work –**



- **Review by Nick Agar and others** – future of woodturning in SA
- **Creating an African Identity** – Professor Juliet Armstrong, who is the head of the Centre for visual Arts. She has traveled extensively through Africa and elsewhere in the world including China. She has a particular interest in African and Chinese artifacts.
- **Creating shape and form that is appealing to the eye** – Michele Rall. Michelle (shown right) is both an artist and a ceramicist of note who lectures at the University. Those who attended last year's congress will remember Michelle for her wonderful clear and concise critique of our work. She will do a presentation on developing a pleasing shape and form and the similarities between ceramics and the turned item.
- **Report back on AAW** – John Wessels John will be attending the American Association of Wood turners Congress this year in June immediately before our congress. John will do a PowerPoint photo presentation of his experience of this event. (One of John's pieces on the right.)
- **Enhancing two large Bowls** – Butch Smuts. Butch is bringing along two partially finished bowls that he proposes attacking with cutting disks, Large angle grinders, Blow torch and numerous other pieces of equipment all with the eventual aim of adding value.
- **Turning of Bagpipes** – Chris Terry. Chris comes from Grahams town and is a world renowned Piper and Pipe maker. He has agreed to demonstrate the intricacies of making a pipe (as in bag pipes)
- **Stains and Staining** – Wally Rossini. Wally has agreed to Demo the various colouring techniques that he uses and provide information on his sources of supply.
- **Turning an article on a Holztapfel type ornamental lathe** - Robin Reynolds. Robin (see right) has spent much time playing with his lathe and this year's demonstration will cover the making of an item on the lathe rather than talking about the lathe and its capabilities.
- **Pen Turning** – Shabbeer Mohamed
- **Tool Sharpening** - Perrie Bullock - Using white stone, Wet stone or linisher
- **Little treasures** – Dennis Laidler
- **Turning a thin walled goblet** – Dries Blignaut
- **Pepper grinder using off-the-shelf turning tools** – Piet Smith
- **Turning and Burning** – How to produce something from less than perfect wood – Nigel Waters
- **Eight fast and fun projects Demo** – Clyde Neumann, Chris Morewood, Winston French, Fred Wright



Go to www.awsa.org.za for more information, including the application forms.