



GOLD COAST WOODTURNERS NEWSLETTER May 2009

NEXT MEETING: Thursday July 16, 2009 at 7 pm

We hope you will plan to attend.

The meeting will be held at Woodcraft located at 1157 S. Federal Hwy., Pompano Beach

<http://www.goldcoastwoodturners.org>

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Next Demonstration:

Bob Przybylski, our Vice President, will demonstrate how to turn a 4" tall "stacked" bowl from a 3/4" thick 9" diameter wood blank and is based on a site by MICHAEL MODE.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Deerfield Beach Public Library has two display cases that our club, Gold Coast Woodturners, will be exhibiting our members turnings for the remainder of 2009. Thanks to Lindy Zack the carving expert. She is usually at the table by the books in the Woodcraft store during our meetings working with a few others. Stop by to say thanks to her.

One display case is built into the entry wall and is 7' tall x 16 1/2" deep x 36" wide with 5 adjustable shelves. The other is free standing octagon shaped so it can be seen from all sides, 36" across x 80" tall with 3 shelves. Both have locking doors.

I figure we can display about 40 to 45 turnings along with club information. We are showing mostly local wood. If you want to participate bring a piece up to 12" diameter and 16" tall.

Smaller pieces will be displayed in front of larger ones. We will have a tent card for each turning listing your name, description, wood type and your phone # if you are interested in selling your piece. No prices will be listed as this is not a sales event.

Each month we will change out any pieces that you want returned or if new participants want to exhibit. Where: Deerfield Beach Percy White Library, 837 E Hillsboro Blvd. Located one block WEST of Federal Hwy on the North side of Hillsboro Blvd. Call for hours opened 954 360-1380. The exhibit committee are the only ones to change the display.

This is an opportunity for our club to show who we are and how we recycle wood destined for mulching or for the landfill by turning it into useful and beautiful works of art.

Lee Sky

Minutes for Gold Coast Woodturners meeting –May, 2009

At the beginning of the meeting a special plaque was given to a very deserved person, Ray Reiland. Ray was given a lifetime membership plaque. Ray has served many positions over the years, including president, and opened his home for demonstrations on occasion. He also has always been very gracious in mentoring others to make their turning more enjoyable.



The May meeting demo was done by Lee Sky, as the demonstrator scheduled had an unexpected personal matter come up---(rumor was he was hit by an 8 foot meteor weighing just over 6 tons, traveling over 18,000 miles per hour, and had to go to the emergency room).



Lee demonstrated making a natural edge goblet. Things to consider:

The stem is going to be narrow, so there cannot be pith running through it, nor a branch that passes through the center. A branch that runs through the part that will be cut away will probably be okay.

Leave plenty of wood at the bottom while you shape and hollow the bowl at the top for support. Put a napkin folded up in the bowl and bring up the tail stock for support while you work your way down to the bottom.

There will be a goblet challenge at the next meeting. Make a mind-blowing creation and impress other woodworkers in June!

Bringback raffle winner: Gary Koenig



There was a vote for the name of the official newsletter from here on. It will be called Wood Chips.

There was an excellent amount of quantity and quality to the instant gallery, with coloring, piercing, burning, carving, and just plain turned vases, platters, wood art, and bowls. The club is turning out some excellent work these days, and it continues to improve. It wasn't an easy choice, but Lee chose John Gill **woodturner of the month**

for a beautiful mahogany box that had a pattern of burnings surrounded by natural color that extended to the lid and the knob on top. Beautiful work John.

The challenge this month was platters and there was a good supply of same, including one by Carl Spinnler that would hold at least 8,000 toll house cookies, that of course, Carl and Mitch Wolok ate before coming to the meeting, thus preventing the rest of us from partaking. **See photos.**

Club Picnic: The club picnic will be May 30 at **Robbins Park Lodge**, Davie, corner of Hiatus Rd. and Orange Drive from 6:30-10:30 PM with BBQ dinner catered by Scruby's BBQ (some of the best in Broward county) and bluegrass music. We all have a great time getting together at the meetings, here's another chance for some fellowship and good food.



BEGINNERS CORNER, Part 3

PUTTING THE WOOD ON THE LATHE

OK, we have a piece of wood, a log, and we are going to put it on the lathe. Sounds simple, right?

First a list of safety rules. Break them at your own risk.

1. ALWAYS wear eye and dust protection. A full face mask is recommended. Trend makes one with filters. I was unhappy with the strength of the motor so I took it out and replaced it with a long air hose connected to a squirrel cage fan which I can put outside the garage. Now I get fresh air and don't worry about replacing filters.
2. Turn the log by hand before starting the machine. EVERY time.
3. Tools sit ON the tool rest. Start at a slow speed.
4. Extreme caution with wood with cracks, checks, knots, bark or irregular shapes.
5. Keep tools sharp. sharp, sharp. When you think it's time to sharpen, you should have done it before. When finishing the last touches, sharpen just before that.
6. Remove tool rest before sanding
7. Never leave the lathe running unattended, even for a minute.

8. Remove bark if not making a natural edge bowl or vase. Keeps it from flying in your face.

Now lets put the wood on and balance it. Mark the approximate centers on both ends with a marker. Put the point of the drive center into the wood and then the point of the live center. DO not tighten yet. Balanced on the points, the wood will turn until the heaviest part is down. Now move the live center down a little. Do it again and then move the drive center down. Repeat until the wood will stay without turning at any point. It is now balanced (by weight, not by measurement). This will give you the ability to turn faster rpm's with little or no vibration.

In order to get a really good seat into the wood, lock the headstock and turn the wood back and forth, making the headstock drive center hole bigger. Then continue to tighten and continue to turn the wood until it is good and tight. Then remember to unlock the drive center before turning the lathe on.

These articles are not intended to teach anyone to turn. Your mentors can do a much better job at that. Everyone will teach somewhat differently. My goal is to review the problems I encountered and how I was taught to resolve them.

Next up the hated job of sanding. Happy Turning

Stan Blumin

TIP OF THE MONTH FROM STAN BLUMIN

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Finishing Tip Of The Month: Orange Peel Eliminator for Lacquer Finishes



Small projects like these can be finished very easily with spray lacquer.

Overview

Lacquer is a very popular finish for woodturnings and I use it frequently in my studio for various projects. It is quite easy to use and virtually foolproof most of the time. It can be sprayed, brushed, or wiped-on (depending on product and viscosity), making it easy to use no matter what type of project you're working on at the moment. Cured lacquer offers good durability, although it's not as durable as some of the more labour intensive finishes like multi-coat oils, polyurethanes, cyanoacrylates, or epoxies.

One of the great features of lacquer is the ability to apply numerous coats in a relatively short period of time. Various tints and pigments can be easily added to produce tone sprays, coloured topcoats, or metallic finishes. Lacquer also polishes to a brilliant, glossy luster that begs to be touched. In short, it is a very versatile finish that's a dependable and predictable performer.

Applying Lacquer

Most of the lacquer I use in my studio is sprayed using HVLP equipment, airbrushes, Preval sprayers (small disposable sprayers), or by using lacquer from a regular aerosol can. I also brush it on from time to time, but spraying it is by far my favourite way to apply this finish. On larger projects I prefer using my HVLP equipment, but when you just want to finish a small project like a writing pen or a bottle stopper, using an HVLP rig is overkill. In situations like these, I typically use an aerosol lacquer spray finish, like Master's Magic.



Master's Magic is my favourite spray lacquer finish for small projects.

Aerosols are easy to use and store, although they are far from *ideal*. Many aerosols have spray tips that seem to have been made for applying a textured or sputtered finish. Some tips are so bad, that they lay down a finish that looks like the surface of a cobblestone street... Master's Magic makes a great high build spray lacquer and the 50 degree spray tip is much better than you'll find on most spray lacquers. When I want to spray lacquer from a can, Master's Magic is my finish of choice.

Orange Peel Rears Its Ugly Head

However, any aerosol spray lacquer can leave a bit of orange peel on the surface that must be smoothed to create that glossy smooth surface that we all love so much. While you can easily wet sand any orange peel on the surface of the finish, it's requires extra time and labour. *Note: Orange peel is defined as a pebbled like film surface on lacquer or enamel finishes that resembles an orange skin. Orange peel can be caused by the lacquer drying too rapidly when sprayed, or by a failure or combination of failures to achieve the desired leveling effects.*

Years ago, when I was doing a lot of projects for the retail market, I stumbled upon a technique to eliminate much, if not all of the wet sanding I was doing on my lacquer finished projects. I say stumbled upon, because I did not set out to develop this shortcut, I accidentally discovered it one day when working on a rush project. Like so many things in life, necessity became the mother of invention when I found a great way to eliminate virtually all of the wet sanding I had been doing on my lacquer finishes prior to buffing.

Orange Peel Eliminator

I was in the studio one day working on a signature piece for a big show and I had just finished spraying the last coat of lacquer when I got a phone call. I stepped out of the studio to answer the phone and whilst

I was talking, a wasp flew in the studio and managed to land on the lacquer finish I had just applied to the project. Lucky me!

When I returned to the studio, the little bugger was still flopping about in a death roll, as it tried to free itself from the sticky surface. After carefully removing the wasp with a pair of tweezers, I surveyed the damage to the finish. I had applied about seven coats of lacquer at this point and there was no time to strip it off and start over. There was also no time to spray more on and let it harden enough to wet sand and buff out. I had barely enough time left to allow the lacquer to harden, so I could finish buffing it.

As I pondered my situation, I considered dropping this piece from the show entirely and moving on to the rest of the work that needed to be done to get ready to leave. However, this piece was a real eye catcher and I needed it as a visual hook for the booth. With no time to apply several more coats of lacquer, I thought why not spray lacquer thinner on the surface and let it smooth out the damaged area?



Disposable Preval sprayers are an excellent way to spray lacquer thinner on finished lacquer surfaces.

If this plan worked, I would not lose much time and I could come back in a few minutes and wet sand the surface to prepare it for buffing. With nothing to lose, I poured some lacquer thinner into a Preval sprayer and donned my respirator (which was outfitted with an organic vapour cartridge), as I grabbed my finishing turntable. I applied several light misting coats onto the surface as I slowly rotated the project to insure an even application of the lacquer thinner on the surface.

Success

Ka-Ching! Not only did the area damaged by the wasp smooth out entirely, but I also noticed that all of the light orange peel on the rest of the surface was also eliminated. This meant that I no longer needed to wet sand the project at all, saving me even more time. After shooting the surface with inert gas to set the

lacquer, I let it sit on my finishing turntable to dry. Later that night I completed buffing the project and packaged it for the show. As expected the piece was a great eye catcher in our booth and it really helped to make our show a success. The buyer loved it as well and I left the show a very happy camper.

On the way home from the show, I recalled the effect the lacquer thinner had on the lightly orange peeled surface. If it worked for light orange peel, it would probably work for heavy orange peel, like you sometimes get with spray lacquers. I did not have long to wait, as I completed a series of smaller projects the next week for another show. All of these projects were sprayed with lacquer from an aerosol can and all had varying degrees of orange peel on the surface.



Lacquer thinner is much less expensive to purchase in one or five gallon sizes.

Rather than wet sanding them, I tried my spray lacquer thinner shortcut and every single project responded beautifully. Any existing orange peel on the surface was eliminated and the lacquer was smooth as glass, ready for buffing. That was more than ten years ago and I have been using this little shortcut ever since... It will not only save you time and effort, but I have found it eliminates virtually every bit of wet sanding I need to do on lacquer finished projects prior to buffing.

Other Benefits

In addition to removing varying degrees of orange peel on the surface of sprayed lacquer, I have found this technique beneficial for many other tasks. These include 1) Smoothing out lacquer buildup between tightly spaced design elements, like a series of small beads, 2) Blending and smoothing out multiple coats of tone-spray, 3) Allows easy feathering and blending of different colours for fade-in, fade-out effects, and 4) It's great for softening the surface of the finish to apply atomized metallic dusts into specific areas before over-coating with clear lacquer.



Make sure you wear a respirator with organic vapor cartridges when spraying lacquer or lacquer thinner.

There are still a few times when I resort to wet sanding a lacquer finished project prior to buffing, but it is a rare case indeed these days. For 99% of my lacquer finishes, this shortcut does the trick, very well indeed. Give it a try on your next project and see for yourself! Remember to wear a respirator (dust masks will do nothing to protect your lungs from toxic fumes) with the proper organic vapour cartridge installed anytime you spray finishes, solvents, or thinners. In addition, remember to wear any other safety equipment that may be required. Safety First!

Note: Additional information on my inert-gas trick for helping lacquers to dry quickly can be found [here](#).

Turning Videos on line

There truly is a fine line between madness and genius!

Nova DVR lathe - modified, chain saw and bowl gouge for tools, rasp files for braking, 3 inch faceplate (with tailstock support) to hold over 4 foot tall 15 inch plus diameter glue up = masterpiece ... priceless. ten minutes long but worth it!! Lee Sky

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ydDQQQww1AA>

If you know of a good video send in a link

This month's work



More photos and the Instant gallery ar on the web site <http://www.goldcoastwoodturners.org/>
Old news letters and old meeting photos are in The Newsletters area of the web site.

Meeting and the Demo



Our Library



The cub has a library of tapes, DVD's and books that can be checked out for a month by members. A \$5 deposit is required.

A full list of titles is on the [web page](#).

We've made a few new acquisitions for the library:

- As you should all know by now, we are a chapter of the AAW and you hear about all the benefits of AAW membership at each meeting. One of those benefits is the American Woodturner magazine, which is arguably one of the best turning magazines in the world. Many of us believe that American Woodturner magazine alone is worth the price of AAW membership. The club has arranged to purchase all issues of American Woodturner in PDF format on CD for the years 1994 to 2006. Those who are unfamiliar with the magazine can review the past issues and see what you've been missing. Those who haven't been members of the AAW all the way back to 1994 will be able to catch up with those issues that predate your membership.
- Some of you may be familiar with "More Woodturning". It is another magazine that is available to the turning community. Where American Woodturner leans more towards the "art" of woodturning, More Woodturning magazine leans more towards the "craft" of turning wood. According to the editor, "It is designed to

- provide guidance in woodturning techniques and to keep you informed as much as possible with what is happening in the woodturning craft; i.e., new equipment, new tools, new techniques, new projects, shows, places to sell, etc.". The club has arranged to purchase all issues of More Woodturning (1996 to present) in PDF format on CD. I hope you will find this a valuable and inspirational resource.
- A member has requested that the club consider the purchase of the Alan Lacer DVD "**Skew Chisel: The Darkside & The Sweet Side**". The board approved the purchase of this DVD at the last board meeting and it should be available in the library shortly. The member that requested this DVD will be given first shot at checking it out of the library. If there are books or videos that you think the club should add to the library, let me know. The board is willing to consider any suggestion, but material that has broad appeal to all members is more likely to be approved as funds become available.

Web Site

A new page has been added for membership which has a membership form and a link to the AAW membership page.

The web site has space available for events or ideas relating to woodturning and things the members might be interested in such as items for sale. If you have any items to add write.

We have Blog (web log) area that is short articles or news. At present, you send items in and I post them. We can actually make this an interactive Blog where you can post messages if you want. It would use passwords and be limited to members only.

Don't forget the **member's gallery** where you can post photos of your work. Send the photos with a short description of each work, wood, finish and any other details. There is no limit on how many you can post, I may need time if you have a lot of additions. IF you would like to have another photo session for gallery photos, let Jerry know. If you have pictures presently in the gallery, they are all numbered so you can send descriptions for each one. I think a short personal biography about your woodturning or a link to a personal turning site would also be good additions. If you want pictures removed, I can do that too.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Gold Coast Woodturners, a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners, was formed in 1992 to promote an awareness of the craft and art of modern-day turning. Each meeting is designed and organized to present woodturning-related programs and projects to the members. Demonstrations are also presented that may be performed by a GCWT member or a world-recognized guest turner. No matter what is scheduled for the next meeting, the results will be the same. Woodturners will gather to share their experiences as well as learn from the experiences of others. All benefit, novices and "old-timers" alike. Beginners learn techniques and styles while the experts reaffirm their skills by demonstrating and teaching.

Gold Coast Woodturners membership benefits include:

- Participation in all GCWT-sponsored activities and demonstrations.
- Weekend workshops to learn new techniques.
- Wood source opportunities through raffles and auctions.
- Tool and supply discounts available from local and national retailers.

- Videotape library.
- Tools and accessories available for loan.
- We encourage our membership to join the AAW. You will receive the American Woodturner Magazine and get some basic insurance needed at many club events.

MENTORS

The club has several members who have volunteered to be mentors to other members. Members may contact one of the experienced mentors and set up a meeting where specific skills or tool usage can be worked on together.

North Broward	Carl Spinnler	954.370.6318
West Broward	Ray Reiland	954.475.1167
Southwest Broward	Jerry Remillard	954.434.5289
Ft Lauderdale	Lee Sky	954.971.6314
	Ron Pursell	(954) 434-6163
Hollywood area	Paul Heede	954.981.5695

OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBERS

If you have any questions about the Gold Coast Woodturners, please contact any of these officers, board members or committee chairpersons:

Lee Sky, President	(954) 683-1406	mrtunit@aol.com
Robert Przybylski, Vice President	(954) 435-8312	
Diane Klein, Secretary	(954) 455-8922	
Ron Pursell, Treasurer	(954) 434-6163	
Lee Sky, Tool Collection		
Ray Reiland, Board Member	(954) 475-1167	
Warren Howie, Board Member	(954) 382-9393	
Jerry Remillard, Board Member	(305) 525-9207	
Carl Spinnler, Board Member	(954) 946-1302	
Jim Kal, Librarian		
Ken Rizza, Membership and Video		
David Kerzel, Newsletter	(954) 785-2184	david@floridaame.org
David Kerzel, Website	(954) 785-2184	david@floridaame.org



Gold Coast Woodturners Membership Form

The membership year for the Gold Coast Woodturners Club runs from January 1 to December 31. Annual dues are \$30.00.

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____

E-Mail _____

_____ Please check if you do not want your name published in the newsletter

PLEASE NOTE, we are a Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. All members are expected to be members of the AAW and covered by their insurance. The AAW dues are \$40.00 per year and you receive a quarterly magazine and a directory of all AAW members throughout the world.

_____ Are you an AAW member?

Yearly dues of \$30.00 are made payable to:

Gold Coast Woodturners,
c/o Ron Pursell
GCWT Treasurer
5500 S.W. 160th Avenue
Southwest Ranches, FL 33331
(954) 868-5811

<http://www.goldcoastwoodturners.org>