

Revolutions

Vol 8, No. 3

March 2014



Charles Swift

1940 - 2014

The South Plains Woodturners mourn the passing of Charles Haynes Swift, a collector of stories.

Charles' life touched people all over the world. He was a fixture at SWAT selling 2 for 1 raffle tickets. At AAW Symposia he helped sell AAW shirts, caps and other AAW paraphernalia, as seen in the lower-right inset at left. Recently, Charles fulfilled a life ambition, visiting all seven world continents, by sailing to Antarctica.

Throughout his life, Charles touched many lives. The woodturning community is but one. We are forever indebted to Charles for his helping found our club.

Charles may be most remembered by his ornately turned cane seen at left.

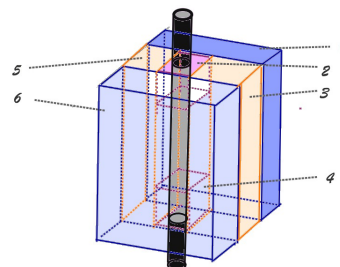
Charlie's Cane



Bob Caraway: February Demo

Bob Caraway of the Panhandle Area Turners demonstrated the construction of a segmented table lamp, using the segments to create the hollow center where the wire may be placed. That center is closed at the top and bottom of the lamp with segments.

Caraway drafted Jim Bob Burgoon, a friend from college in Canyon sometime during the last century, to put the actual iron to the wood.



This lamp style may be constructed from as few as six pieces of wood as shown at the left.

Caraway used a box store lamp kit to wire and install the shade support, but he told us an inexpensive kit source is [National Artcraft](#).

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Revolutions

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Notice from the BOD

The South Plains Woodturners Board of Directors reminds Every member that the Board meets on the Tuesday Following Saturday regular meeting. The meetings are open to all.

Minutes of the meetings along with a monthly Treasurer's report is available from the Club Secretary, Ron Barnett.

Dues for 2014-2015 Year are payable now.

Annual Dues	\$30
Household Member	\$15



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President's Notes

What a whirlwind the last month has been for our club. We completed our third beginner course, at the Garden and Arts center. I would like to thank Paula and Anne for their assistance in hosting us for that 6 weeks stretch. The call for help at our last meeting was answered in an overwhelming fashion. Thanks go out to Buddy Chesser, Johnny Hamilton, Tom Farrell, David Hoehns, Ron Barnett, Randy Thorne for pitching in and helping mentor during the last 2 classes. The feedback from the students was tremendous, they learned an amazing amount and it was a delight to watch their progress and improvement! We will be offering our 4th beginners course starting in June at the Garden and Arts center.

We rue the passing of Charles Swift, one of our founders. But in this time of sadness, we still see his devotion to our club. He donated his lathe and a ton of materials to be sold. The proceeds from the sales almost doubled the amount in our building fund. If you would care to send a memorial in Charles honor, it will be added to the building fund. Give your memorials to Bob Herman. The family will receive a notice of the individuals that contribute.

We have the Lubbock Arts Festival coming up April, 11 – 13. We will once again be demonstrating and having a Freedom Pen turn-a-thon, Saturday and Sunday. We will have a sign-up sheet at the next meeting for volunteers. This is the event where we make more contacts than any other throughout the year. Let's have a great showing!

Next Club Meeting April 5th

At Target Sheet Metal

In the wood shop

Enter via the West door near rear
South Loop 289 (see map on last page)

Demonstration:

Jeff McKennon

Stabilization

Meeting starts at 10:00, but come early. Help make the coffee and visit with other turners.

Revolutions

SWAT 2014 Demos Part 1

SWAT 2014 continues the tradition of bringing vital and dynamic demonstrators, demonstrators in demand all over the world. Three of the six Invited Lead demonstrators will also be appearing in Phoenix at the AAW Symposium, Alan Carter, Al Hockenbery and Rudolph Lopez.

Alan Carter of these three has perhaps most recently burst on the woodturning scene, demanded for demonstrations everywhere, appearing in polished thegeekgroup videos since appearing on the cover of June 2011 *Woodturning Design*. He credits Steve Hatcher and Marilyn Campbell for doing seminal work in this style: turn, cut and assemble.

[Alan's Website](#) is a frequently changing chronicle of his work and focus. At SWAT Carter will conduct *Split Bowl Tutorial* and *Thin Stemmed Tutorial*. The Split bowl was described in October 2013 *Woodturning Design*.

Al Hockenbery's two topics this August will be his *Ball in Ball* and *Natural-edged Hollowform*. Al brings nearly forty years woodturning experience to his demonstrations. The Ball in a Ball concept can be artistic or whimsical. Al's website is under renovation, currently, but his organic and earthy style may be viewed at [Photo album](#).

Rudolph Lopez, AAW's 2012 Emerging Artist, is a new and dynamic presence in our field. Lopez's [work](#) shows the excited exploration of form, color, and texture of an artist finding his way. At SWAT he will demonstrate *Square to Round*, of which examples may be seen on his website at the above link, and *Winged Bowl*, a creative approach to whole-log turning. Many of his winged bowls utilize crotches.

[Online registration](#) for SWAT is open. Should anyone experience problems with registration, call David Hoehns at 806 789-5108 or report via allskewedup@gmail.com.

Art Festival

In April A is for Art. The Lubbock Art Festival is our big event of the year. The South Plains Woodturners plan to demonstrate throughout the Festival.

Festival Schedule

Thursday April 10

- Set up at time to be announced by the April club meeting. Volunteers needed for set up..
- 6 – 9 pm is Ticketed event. Club will demonstrate and meet with patrons.

Friday April 11

- Prep for Demo 9:30-10:00 am
- 10:00 am – 7:00 pm Demonstrate spin top turning
Volunteers need throughout the day.

Saturday April 12

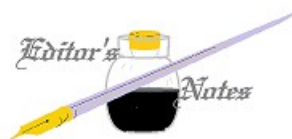
- Prep for Demo 9:30-10:00 am
- 10:00 am – 7:00 pm Demonstrate Turning and assembling Freedom Pens.
Volunteers need throughout the day.

Sunday April 13

- rep for Demo 11:30-Noon
- Noon – 5:00 pm Demonstrate Turning and assembling Freedom Pens.
Volunteers need throughout the afternoon.

Club Calendar

Date	Event
04/05/14	Regular Club Meeting Demonstrator: Jeff McKennon Stabilization
04/08/14	BOD Meeting
04/10/14	Lubbock Arts Festival
04/11/14	Lubbock Arts Festival
04/12/14	Lubbock Arts Festival
04/13/14	Lubbock Arts Festival
05/03/14	Election of Officers at Regular Club Meeting
05/06/14	BOD Meeting
06/07/14	Installation of Officers at Regular Club Meeting
07/05/14	Regular Club Meeting
08/02/14	Regular Club Meeting
08/22/14	SWAT 2014
08/23/14	SWAT 2014
08/24/14	SWAT 2014
09/06/14	Regular Club Meeting
09/12/14	Set up for Fall Fest
09/13/14	Fall Fest at Garden and Arts Center
10/06/14	Regular Club Meeting
11/01/14	Regular Club Meeting
12/06/14	Regular Club Meeting
12/11/14	Christmas Party



The first Newsletter editor, Charles Swift, has passed. Thoughts on his passing seem appropriate, even necessary.

Renaissance Man comes to mind given the wide range of Charles' interests and pursuits. His baby sister told us Charles had over 500 college hours! He studied everything he did in detail. That was how he spoke, in detail. One did not casually ask Charles Swift a question, expecting a simple answer. One may even wonder whether "Yes" or "No" were a part of his vocabulary.

All problems or questions for Charles appeared to him like the rest of us when asked, for example, for the last four digits of our Social Security Number. We have memorized nine digits, and spouting the last four without some consideration for the previous five digits is difficult.

Most of us upon being asked a question make up an answer. This is not to suggest we make up a lie; instead, we compose an answer. Charles; however, already *knew* the answer. He did not compose it. He merely recited it.

Charles' mastery of biology and other sciences, all inherently ordered and classified so that one may solve problems, suggests The Age of Enlightenment.

Charles Swift was man who stood astride the Twentieth and Twenty-first Century, but he was in final analysis, a story teller no less than the likes of Homer, who memorized his stories as epic poems...

Rest in Peace, Charles

March Gallery



David
Turner

The mesquite vase began as a big vase, but got smaller. David's hollow form in the foreground, *Open Button*, is turned from unknown wood.

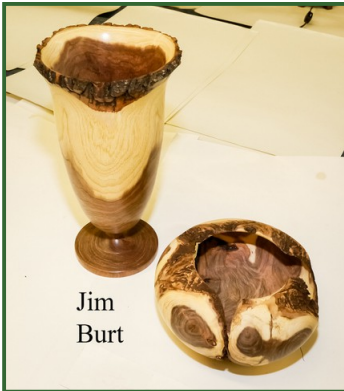
The CapRock Triple Threat along with the acrylic bottle stopper were donated by David Turner to the club raffle. All of David's pieces were completed in February.

Ron Barnett's graceful and larger vase, *Nature*, was turned from Acacia Koa, a native of Hawaii. Ron's intention was to turn a pepper-mill, but the color and contrasting grain demanded the vase form. In the foreground may be seen Ron's maple burl vase. Both are February products. (Compare the maple vase with Randy Thorne's goblet on page 5.)



Ron
Barnett

Jim Burt exhibited a natural-edged mesquite vase at far left and the nearer bowl is turned from mesquite root ball. Jim's vase shows off the interesting contrast between sapwood and heartwood. Both pieces were completed in February.



Jim
Burt

A club visitor, Aaron King is a student at LCU. He showed some of his pen production. Aaron completed each pen pictured at right on February 22nd. Aaron's pens reflect a variety of wood including purple heart, cotton stalk, cocobola, zebra wood and blood wood.

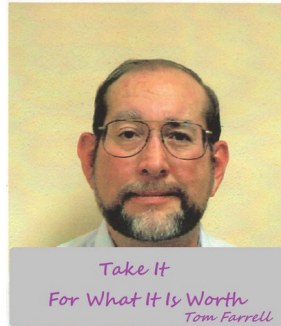


Aaron King

Donations to Club

Beth Bartley made a \$100 donation to the club's building fund in memory of her friend, Theo Lide. Though not a club member, Theo was a novice woodturner who was excited about woodturning. Thank You, Beth.

The Charles Swift family donated a lathe and a large amount of wood the club. The sale of these materials yielded \$726. We are grateful for the donation in memory of our late friend.



Take It
For What It Is Worth
Tom Farrell

Your Editor has suggested I address the subject of becoming a professional woodturner. My view point shows me two paths or a combination of the two ways to go. These two ways are two communities, artists and woodturners. Neither communities is exclusive of each other, and I do not think money is the highest goal

of either. You will have to find a way to support yourself until your work takes off and you become much sought after and world famous. Find outlets for your products, and get a listing in Names & Numbers or The Yellow Pages. You will want to get a Sales Tax Permit and file returns. There is skill involved, but being a professional is also a state of mind. When someone asks, "What do you do?" don't be afraid to say you are an artist or a woodturner or both. When work starts to come in, do the best you know how. If you misjudge time and /or materials so as to windup working for a dollar an hour or less, you are richer for the experience and you'll give a more accurate estimate next time. Note: Don't ask me how I know any of this.

Your customers will talk to their friends and, if they are happy, you will get a good word of mouth reference. Do keep in mind that getting started will take some time, so don't be discouraged. If you don't already have thick skin, grow some. The world abounds with critics. Examine your work closely and in different lights. You will see flaws. Work to eliminate the most obvious flaws from all your pieces and continue to refine your skill and judgment. A patch of torn end-grain, a scratch or uneven finish and many other perceived flaws will consciously or unconsciously affect a customer's view of your work. If you like what you've done the chances are others will like it. I have an artist friend who has a saying, "Art should never have to explain its self." Not everyone will share your vision. Popular themes will have a broader appeal.

Pricing is difficult. On production work, I use a time and materials approach. On artistic pieces, I price the piece so that when it sells I am not unhappy to see it find a new home. My quote for the day:

Be happy in your work. From the 1957 movie *The Bridge On The River Kwai*.

Workshop For You

Mark April 26 on your Calendar. It is time for another workshop at Glenn's workshop on the canyon. This workshop was designed to help with any concern you may have. Want help turning a bowl? A skew? What do you do with that thing, anyway? Are box lids always too small, no matter how many times you cut the tenon? Is there a better way to work at the lathe?

At the April meeting, sign up for help at the workshop at Glenn Williams' shop. Indicate the area or skill where you need some help. The club will match you up with someone who work with you on your concerns.

In addition to students, we also teachers to sign up for the workshop, too.

Workshop Hours 9 to 3

Directions to Glenn Williamson's for April 26th workshop:

Take Highway 400 North from Slaton, TX

Just past the Slaton airport on the West or Left side of 400, one passes County Road 114 on the Left. At that point 400 makes about a slow 40 degree turn to the West or left.

As soon as that curve is complete East County Road 7300 appears on the Right. One may see a sign for Rustic Range.

Proceed East on CR 7300 to Private Road 3550.

PR3550 is a road running South or to the right from a dark green coded gate

Climb the hill and turn right at the entrance marked with Williamson.

Try to park in the area East of the Shop. Park on pavement.

For gate code, call Glenn at 806 828 4138

THE ULTIMATE
LOOK BACK

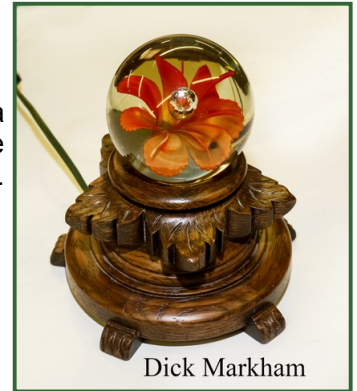
Picture from the first South Plains Woodturners meeting 2006. At left a youthful Dick Markham and Charles Swift.

From the Markham Archive.



Gallery (From page 4)

Dick Markham brought out a night light made 2008. The piece is turned and carved oak. Dick says its name is *Useless*.



Dick Markham



Coy Hunt

Coy Hunts offering for the March Show 'N Tell is a mesquite vase. Finished in February, Hunt enhanced the vase with turquoise.



David
Hoehns

At right the flute is turned from air-dried honey locust sat on a base and stem of turned African blackwood. Hoehns finished this piece with a mix of shellac and ethyl-alcohol in February



Ron Butler

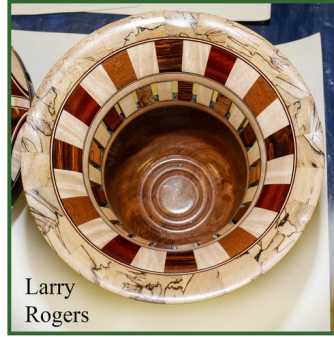
Ron Butler showed off this segmented bowl he finished in February. He assembled black walnut, winge and yellow heart. Ron says this bowl in named *My Wife's*. One can only suspect Ron's boss told him the name.

Continued on page 6 (See Show 'N Tell)

Show 'N Tell (From page 5)



Larry
Rogers



Larry
Rogers

The two segmented pieces above were brought in by Larry Rogers. On the left is, essentially, a practice piece for a commissioned work completed in January. As a caution to himself, Larry calls this *Watching You*. It is comprised of cocobolo, curly maple and bloodwood. The open bowl at right was completed in February. Larry used mesquite, cocobolo, leopard wood and spalted maple in its construction.

Donnie Edwards found us through the beginner's class at Garden and Arts Center. The pieces at right were turned during the class. Be welcome, Donnie.



Donnie Edwards

The two above right were exhibited by Loy Cornett. At rear he shows his purple heart and maple segmented vase, and at front is a mesquite bowl. The vase was completed in January while the bowl was finished in February. Loy finished both pieces with Deft® clear gloss lacquer.



Loy Cornett



Randy
Thorne

Randy Thorne showed four pieces. A far left is a staved vase made of curly maple with walnut and capped with ambrosia maple completed in 2011. To its right the second vase is made from ash, mahogany and walnut in a modified stave form. This second vase was finished I 2010. More recently, January, Randy turned the long-stemmed goblet from maple with no tailstock support! Most recently, Thorne turned the bird's eye maple burl, *Broken Goblet*. When Thorne's *Broken Goblet* was placed on the saw beside Ron Barnett's maple burl vase, they complimented each other completely. How amazing it is that two people, working independently, serendipitously create work that seems almost extensions of each other. Thanks for the moment, gentlemen.



Vicki and Mike
Oglesby

Above three pieces by Mike and Vicki. The larger bowl, Mike's, was turned out of Russian olive in February. Vicki turned the smaller, mesquite bowl which was donated to the club raffle. The lidded box was a collaborative effort. Last year as Vicki practiced for her wonderful demo for the club, she blew-up this box. Dick Markham took the piece to his shop, creating the segmented ring and returning it to Vicki later. Recently, Vicki finished the lid and the finial.

Revolutions

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Trent & Josh



Map to Locate Meetings