

Revolutions

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NEWSLETTER FOR THE



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Tom Farrell Raises the Bar



We saw Tom's Christmas ornaments last year at the club Christmas party first. Then he gave us a great demonstration earlier in the year as a tune up before he appearance at the Las Vegas Symposium. Later, Tom took his show to the South West Association of Turners.

After the demonstration at the October meeting, Mike Oglesby made the statement that Tom has set the bar for all the demonstrators with the quality of his demonstration, handouts and product. One must insist Tom *raised* the bar with this great demonstration.

A demonstration like this is six in one. First, Farrell shows how to create aluminum jigs to accurately mark the outside circle of a sphere and spherical inside circle of a hollow half sphere. Next, Tom builds a ball chuck. Then he demonstrates the opening of two hollow half-spheroids with the aluminum jig and a round nosed scraper. After truing the two halves, Tom glues them together. After this, Farrell uses the other aluminum tool to measure as he shapes what is a hollow sphere. Once turned, he shows how to use the ball chuck to apply texture using a male thread-chaser. If all this were not enough, Tom finishes with finial demonstration that results in original finials. Six demos for the price of one. Yes, Tom has raised the standard for demonstrations in Lubbock!



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Collaboration Marks Gallery

The October meeting became remarkable for two reasons. One reason was the appearance of pieces from two different sets of collaborators.

Joyce and Dick Markham, whose work has been displayed before, had two pieces in the gallery. The Markham's work may be seen on page 6.

Vicki and Mike Oglesby's powerful collaboration may be seen on page 3.

When two or more people work together creatively, each bringing personal strengths to their mutual practice, the sum is greater than the parts. Each is vulnerable, exposing creative weakness to the other(s). Trust becomes vital. The proof may be seen in the results. Congratulations to the four for those results.

Continued (See Bryce Ellis on Page 3)

Revolutions

Revolutions © is the newsletter for the South Plains Woodturners, an organization dedicated to promoting the craft and art of woodturning. *Revolutions* is published each month at Lubbock, TX.

The South Plains Woodturners is affiliated with The American Association of Woodturners and The Southwest Association of Turners.

Please direct any questions or comments about **Revolutions** to the editor:

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President's Letter

Jim Harris has been out of the country, and was unable to submit a President's Letter this month.

Here are some obvious things Jim would address, had he been able:

Jim did not see Tom Farrell's demonstration as he was absent from the last meeting. Everyone has commented on the quality of Tom's demo. The flow of the demonstration was enhanced and improved by the assistance Tom had from Toni Farrell, who managed the visual aids.

Jim would mention the sale Saturday October 23 in Midland. Marty Farris will be selling Don's tools at their home 4007 Dunkirk, Midland, TX. This sale will begin at 10:00 am and will be limited initially to members of Comanche Trails and South Plains Woodturners clubs.

Too, he would thank Harrell Ellis for his donation of a vacuum cleaner to travel with the club's trailer. Thanks, Harrell

The Prez would also thank Kay Agnew for volunteering to operate the club library at the last meeting.

Jim would make some comment about the poor initial sales of the Christmas party tickets.

Finally, Jim would thank Mike Chambers for presiding at the October club and board meetings.

Next Club Meeting

November 6

At Target Sheet Metal

In the wood shop

Enter via the West door near rear

South Loop 289 (see map on last page)

Demonstration: David Hoehns

Spherical Sanding Tools

Plus

Tom Farrell will conduct a Master Class

Dealing with the Christmas Ornaments

After lunch

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

October Meeting Guests



Three guests came to the last club meeting. These include Ray Crager, Walter Goodnight and J. Martin Basinger.

Revolutions has been remiss in listing other recent visitors. Benny Cousatte and Eddie Rowe attended our September meeting. Thomas Jeffers came to the August club meeting.

BBQ Swap Meet Set for Spring

At the October meeting of the Board of Directors, May 7, 2011 was set for the BBQ meal for members, friends and family and swap meet.

So dust off or clean up the tool you don't use. Bring them in to the swap meet to be held after the May meeting. Got some jig or device you use for turning, make another one. Someone might like, too.

Do you have a source for wood? Most of us do not have a good source. Toss some wood in the back of the pickup or the car trunk for the swap meet.

Got ideas for the meal. Contact a board member (see above) with your ideas.

Should you use a skewer or a fowl gouge?



October Show and Tell Gallery



Wally McKee brought the two pepper mills made from maple, purple heart, wenge and mesquite. One mill has not been finished.



The pen shown above was made by Vicki Oglesby. She gave the pen to Randy Thorne who displayed the piece. Vicki made the pen from newsprint stabilized with aliphatic resin glue, aka Titebond®



Randy Thorne is one the club's most eclectic turners. He has shown us some great open segmented pieces recently, but he turned up at the October meeting with the display at left. His pens are turned with skill and creative design. The box was chock full of some of his best pens.



Thorne also displayed two Christmas ornaments made in September. Both were constructed with three-way openings. One was dyed with orange and green, and the other was left natural color. Both have been finished with Deft® spray.

A purple-heart cedar lidded box is shown enlarged at the right above. Also shown in the larger image to the right is vase turned from purple-heart cedar. The vase was just completed. In the center of the image at left are two nut bowls. One has been turned from spalted holly. The other was made from ash. Both were finished already in October. All of Randy's pieces have been finished with Deft® Spray.



The beaded bowl, turned and beaded by Mike Oglesby, was burned and inked by Vicki Oglesby. It has been finished inside and out. The Oglesby's creation, an intriguing chiaroscuro, is done in the David Nittmann manner, with radial beading developed on the lathe using a 1/4 inch beading tool of Mike's manufacture while the vertical beads are burned into the soft maple with a stylus. Mike reports the burning tool available them was insufficient, so the vertical beads were sawed with a small saw, a tedious process.

Continued (See September Gallery on Page 4)

Bryce Ellis (From Page 1)



The other collaborative exercise seen at the October meeting, Bryce Ellis brought a problem to the club, seeking help with making a tenon work.

Ellis had two mesquite pieces in which the tenon broke loose from the bowl.

Several suggestion came from other club members. These included making a larger tenon initially as mesquite, a very hard wood tends to be brittle near to the pith.

The members' cumulative knowledge and skill at woodturning techniques is vast and deep. If anyone has a problem, our members may have a solution. The gallery is one way to tap their experience.

Remember, too, jigs and tools make great gallery items.

Christmas Ornaments from page 1



At left club members enjoying Tom's demo.

Below is Tom's jig for cutting the inside and outside shaping jig. He



advises the use of six screws to attach the aluminum plate to the plate. The offset screw just away from center is essential to prevent spinning or distorting during the cutting process.



Tom did not invent the ball chuck as they have long been used to make so-called Chinese balls, but his ball chuck is clean and appears to be very efficient.

A review of the *AAW Journal* found only a few references to turning spheres.

John Brewer in "Making Spheres: Geometry and fine cuts produce a perfect form," Summer 2001, wrote about his friend and mentor, Myron Curtis. Curtis, now aged ninety, was a production turner. Once when he needed to turn some forty spheres of divers sizes, Curtis and a friend-developed a tool for marking off a series of successive angles beginning with 135° to of each side of the top of the the piece followed by several 167 1/2° that when completed need only be rounded over to result in a sphere.

In the following issue, Brian Simmons related in "Turning Spheres: A Simple Method with Ring Gauges," Fall 2001, a method he learned from a class with Soren Berger of New Zealand. This method utilized shaping spheres using rings to measure fit.

This ring gauge concept has since been modified. A recent episode of the PBS series *Woodturning Workshop*, "Ladles," aired originally 06/04/10, illustrated this development. Tim Yoder turned a jig to measure the accuracy of a sphere. Yoder's jig was turned from hard maple about one inch in diameter. It resembled a thimble, hollowed with a sharp edge with an inside arcing from the edge inward. He turned a cove above the open end to allow for ease in handling the jig.

The jig is used on a still or, better, on a spinning piece to identify imperfections in the surface of a sphere. In Tom's demo he measured his sphere by eye from two different angles. If your eye is a less acute tool, you might consider Yoder's adaptation of Simmons' ring gauge.

Tom's aluminum tools establish and measure the wall thickness of the hollow sphere on non-spinning work. The outside tool also may be used to establish the *perfection* of the sphere.

Continued on Page 5 (See Spheres)

September Gallery (continued from page 3)

Vicki experimented with several pens for inking. She tried a Sharpie® and several art pens. If anyone is interested in this technique, talk with Vicki.



At left is Mike Oglesby's hard maple beaded bowl. It is finished with lacquer. Mike used his beading tool on the bowl.

At right Mike holds one of the hard maple platters. Both are textured with the 1/4 inch tool.



At left are mesquite salt and pepper shakers, Mike Chambers made on contract for an automobile dealer. Mike bought a truck. The dealer bought the shakers.

In the picture below are four by Larry Rogers. The tall sycamore vase was a reclamation is a way, Mike Oglesby turned the initial form, but Larry finished the project, inlaying turquoise and staining it cherry. A gorgeous piece, Larry entitled *Oglesby - Rogers*

Combo, and he put it in the Bring Back Raffle.

One might say Larry never met a demo he didn't try. Last month Buddy

Compton's "Natural Edged Mesquite bowl" demo stimulated the two natural edged bowls in the picture, oak enhanced with turquoise in the foreground and maple in back. The lush lidded vessel, *Sugar Cookies*, represents Rogers ability to absorb new methods or procedures and make them his own. .



Continued on Page 6 (See Gallery)

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Turning Stained Glass: Ken Eberle

Many of you saw Ken Eberle's article about making diagonally sliced rings in *Woodturning Design* in the last issue. Larry Rogers did, using the technique in a masterful way now on at least three fine pieces. (See Larry's *Sugar Cookies* on the previous page.)

Eberle has moved his creative talents on to new ground, turning stained glass. Two examples follow.

With this piece Ken developed a segmented vessel. In another image, not used here, he sat a pale green candle whose circumference nearly covered the dark center.

Eberle's technique here included pine cones and ground glass intermixed into a fiberglass resin.

Over time a piece like this will bend time in a way. The wood, even though it is finished, may be expected to develop a patina from use, handling and the environment. At the same time the glass colors will not change. A fascinating



concept.

The bowl below is another by Ken Eberle that uses the stained glass. Ken says that he likes the idea of being able to create a piece wherein the color may be expected to remain a constant value over all time.

Like inlay, the glass-resin must be sanded. Ken states the sanding takes a great amount of time.

The images have been used with the permission of Ken Eberle. Ken is a part-time Texan. Hopefully, he drop by for a meeting sometime.



If anyone is interested in trying this process, The Berg Studio at 3236 Oberlin has scraps and small pieces of stained glass laying around all the time. Call Melanie at 762-1119. When they are working, they might not answer the phone, so leave a message.

Ken would probably share some of his experiences with the process. Email Ken at alloway@gbta.net.



Spheres (From Page 5)

Tom Farrell repeatedly cautioned in his demo that the aluminum tools *must not* be used on work while the lathe is turning.

The use of templates is not new, but the Tom's creation of the inside-outside aluminum template concept seems new. Most templates are cardboard, or even thin paper. Farrell's idea should benefit the production turning of ornaments or other hollow spheres.

On the lathe Tom turns the sphere from cylinder with the limits of the sphere marked with parting tool. He follows many in turning this way. Where Farrell differs from several published techniques is he turns his sphere almost exclusively on the lathe in its initial position. Others, most recently, Fredrick C. Hill in *AAW Journal* August 2010, "Spherical Thinking" uses cup chucks to shape the sphere in several positions. Our own Larry Rogers demonstrated this technique several years ago, putting the sphere in at least three positions between cup chucks. Farrell cannot use the cup chuck method because of the relationship between the inside and outside of the sphere.

This relationship must be as congruent as possible. The ornament is so thin that any variance in thickness may make the product too fragile or, at extreme, flawed.

Below is the cover from the next issue of *Woodturning Design*. That middle ornament should look familiar to everyone in the South Plains Woodturners. It is Tom Farrell's.

Few authors make the front cover with their first article. Congratulations, Tom. Great ideas and a great demo!



Woodturning Design cover use with permission of Joe Herrmann.

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Gallery (Continued from Page 4)

Sugar Cookies, a segmented piece, uses three layers of diagonally cut rings of leopard wood. Additional woods used by Rogers in this work include granadillo, canary and zebra. Maple and walnut veneers have been used to separate and compliment the pieces.



The three items shown above are the product of Dick and Joyce Markham. Dick turned the mahogany lidded dish in 2008, the lidded bowl of poplar in 2007 and the blood wood potpourri dish in 2010. Artistic enhancement came from Joyce's hands and eye.



Two lidded boxes by David Hoehns. On the left a spalted apricot box completed in September from wood put away in 2009. On the right is *Peace Pear 1*, a pear wood box turned from tree felled years ago in a vain attempt to make peace with neighbors. *Peace Pear 1* was turned in August. Both boxes have been finished with beeswax and oil.



Bob Herman presented an oak bowl turned in 2010.

Kay Agnew exhibited jewelry, key rings, tops and refrigerator magnets this month.

The necklace and ear rings were turned from pen blanks. At the left is a pill box key chain completed with a ca glue finish. At right are two refrigerator magnets while a tiny top has been placed in the center.



Buy Your Tickets for Christmas Party at November Meeting

Ticket sales for the club Christmas Party, a dinner at Hillcrest Country Club on December 10 began at the October meeting. Sales were very poor.

The November meeting is the last date to buy the tickets.

Mail a check to the club's new mailing address:



South Plains Woodturners
P. O. Box 65428k
Lubbock, TX 79464

Mail your check in time for receipt prior to November 6.

So either bring a check to November meeting or mail it before the meeting.

If there is no sales at the November meeting the Christmas will be canceled!!

Klingspor Offers Club Discount

10% Off all Non-Motorized Product

Klingspor is offering club members a discount on their products. The South Plains Woodturners will be sending a list of members with addresses in order that Klingspor may verify members.

The club has been assured that Klingspor will use the information in anyway beyond the verifying membership for the discount.

Any member who prefers their information **not** be shared with Klingspor, may request a board member withhold their name. This request must be received no later than November 9, the date of the next board meeting.

Plans to Expand Library

At the October meeting of the Board of Directors antipitates purchasing additional books or DVD for the club library was discussed. The BOD wishes to hear suggestions from the membership about this purchase.

Have you a turner you wish the club to purchase? Is there a book you would like to see in the library? Would you prefer the club buy some project books.

State your wishes to a board member.

Special Thanks

to Kay Agnew

for setting up the library

in Jim Bob's absence.

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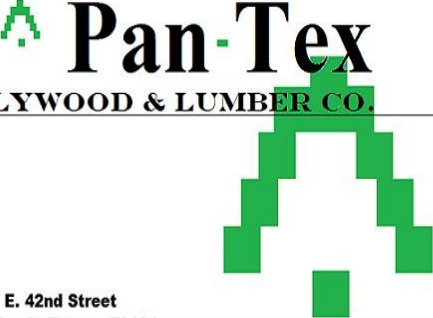
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Map to locate club meeting

