

## OVWG NEWSLETTER

Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild

A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners [www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org)

Volume 1, Issue 4

December 2002

## January Luncheon & Contest Rules

We will again be having our Annual January Luncheon at the Evendale Buffet. This year the event will take place on January 18th starting at 10:00 am. Check out the re-posting of the rules below to make sure your entry conforms to the requirements.

### Contest Rules for the January Luncheon:

This year our contest will feature a piece made entirely of plywood. The Turner must adhere to the following rules.

- The piece must be constructed of multi-ply Baltic Birch (also known as Finnish Plywood). This is the stuff that is made up of many plies and has no voids that would show up as ugly spaces in your work. It may be purchased at Home Depot, Rocklers, Woodcraft and Paxton's Woods.
- The piece may be laminated from any combination of thickness of Plywood.
- The piece may be any shape and size but must have spent most of its time on the lathe. It must have a clear film finish. The plywood layers must be exposed and viewable.

We will offer first (\$50), second (\$35) and third (\$25) prizes and Honorable Mention in each of our three (3) categories; Novice, Advanced and Master. In addition, we will offer a single Peoples Choice Award voted by all attendees at the Luncheon.

### Criteria for Turner Classifications:

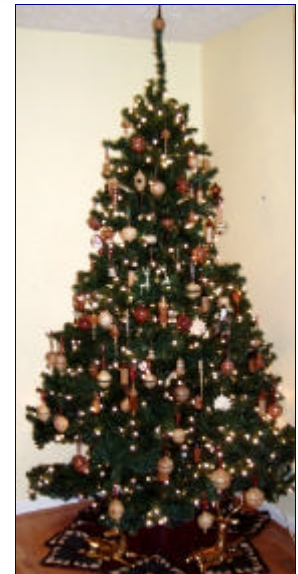
- **Master Turner** - any member who has won 1st place two or more times in any previous OVWG competition.
- **Advanced Turner** - any member who has won 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in the Novice Class or any new member who has placed in other competitions before joining OVWG
- **Novice Turner** - all remaining entrants.

All new members of OVWG should enter at their appropriate skill level.

## Luncheon Sign-Up

The cost of this years luncheon is once again being held to the affordable amount of just \$5. This doesn't fully cover the cost of the buffet (not even close in some folks case!), but the balance is being picked up by the club. In order to try and avoid the seating challenges and confusion we had last year, we are asking for your \$5 for you and each guest as soon as possible. There is no entry fee for the contest, unless you haven't registered by the time of the luncheon. Then it will be an additional \$5 to enter the competition. Thanks for helping us get this organized and make it enjoyable for everyone.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ No. OF GUESTS: \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$\_\_\_\_\_



**Christmas at the McFalls - over 100 wood ornaments!**

### Upcoming Events:

January	18th
<i>Club Contest &amp; Luncheon Evendale Buffet 10784 Reading Road Evendale OH</i>	
February	15th
<i>Featured Turner: Binh Pho Location TBA</i>	
February	16th
<i>Hands-on workshop with Binh Pho Gil Russ's shop Loveland OH 45140</i>	
March	8th & 15th
<i>Home Shop Demos Contact John Lannom to put your shop on the tour</i>	
March	22nd
<i>Club Meeting Guest Turner TBA</i>	
April	19th
<i>Club Meeting Guest Turner TBA</i>	



## Turnings Command Attention At Dayton Show

### A Tip O' The Hat to the Woodturning Entries

So, just a carving show, huh? Well, this ain't your father's carving show. Things looked a little different this year at the 21st Artistry in Wood show in Dayton. There were 300 exhibitors showing off their stuff at what the Dayton Carver's Guild claims to be the largest show of its kind in the country. The exhibitors are all juried into the show and they have a waiting list. Gary Brackett has been setting up at this show since Moses was a teenager, Jim Burrowes is on his 8th or 9th show and this was Lowell Converse's 4th time. And, you know what they say, "4th time is a charm." Lowell took Best in Show in the woodworking category. Not only is that a first for him, but it's a first for any turner at this show. There are two categories for Best in Show - wood carving and woodworking (which is everything that's not carved.) Of course, after the ribbon presentation the prize winning hat no longer fit Lowell and he was lucky to escape out the double-wide doors at the end of the day.

All of the turning displays really looked great and it was good to see so many other turners supporting their friends. We could have held a club meeting if there hadn't been carpet on the floor!



Best in Show - for the first time ever this award in the "Woodworking" category went to a turned item, and rightfully so! Congratulations Lowell!

Hmmm, wonder where we could set up a show like this for turners? It was really interesting to see the turnings (and all the displays) in more of a "retail" type setting besides just on our show and tell table. You can really tell the difference and see why these guys are so good. No sanding marks, no design shapes that just didn't quite make it, no spotty finishes. You know what I mean - all the things that separate us wanna be turners from the guys that know what they're doing. It was great motivation to get back into the shop and try to match some of the output on the tables. Now, if I can just find that mentor list and schedule a few sessions with all of them . . .



Jim Burrowes and his great display garnered his usual share of ribbons.



Gary Brackett turned quite a few heads with his array of turned items (or was that because Rose was there?)

WOODWORKING			
BEST OF SHOW	Lowell Converse		
2nd BEST OF SHOW	David Adler		
3rd BEST OF SHOW	Tom Gilbert		
CATEGORIES	1st	2nd	3rd

**EVERYONE IS ENTITLED TO BE STUPID, BUT SOME ABUSE THE PRIVILEGE.**

**NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, SOMEBODY WILL FIND A WAY TO TAKE IT TOO SERIOUSLY.**

**DIG WHERE THE GOLD IS - UNLESS YOU JUST NEED MORE EXERCISE.**

**IT MAY BE THAT YOUR SOLE PURPOSE IN LIFE IS TO SERVE AS A WARNING TO OTHERS!**

**DON'T CONFUSE ME WITH THE FACTS - MY MIND IS ALREADY MADE UP!**

**Silver Fox Says:**





## Participation Poem

ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER  
THE KIND WHO WOULD BE MISSED?  
OR ARE YOU JUST CONTENTED  
THAT YOUR NAME IS ON THE LIST?

DO YOU TAKE AN ACTIVE PART  
TO HELP THE ORGANIZATION ALONG?  
OR ARE YOU SATISFIED TO BE  
THE KIND TO "JUST BELONG"?

THERE'S QUITE A PROGRAM SCHEDULED  
THAT MEANS SUCCESS IF DONE,  
AND IT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED  
WITH THE HELP OF EVERYONE.

DO YOU ATTEND THE MEETING  
AND MINGLE WITH THE CROWD?  
OR DO YOU STAY AT HOME  
AND CRAB BOTH LONG AND LOUD?

DO YOU EVER GO TO VISIT  
A MEMBER WHO IS SICK,  
OR LEAVE THE WORK TO JUST A FEW  
AND TALK ABOUT THE CLIQUE?

SO, ATTEND OUR MEETING REGULARLY  
AND HELP WITH HAND AND HEART.  
DON'T JUST BE A MEMBER  
BUT TAKE AN ACTIVE PART.

THINK THIS OVER, MEMBER:  
ARE WE RIGHT OR WRONG?  
ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER  
OR DO YOU JUST BELONG?

Thanks to Joe Servocky of the National  
Woodcarver's Association.



## Louisville Trip Hits A Homerun

Twenty three brave souls ventured forth to Louisville and were rewarded with some woodturning camaraderie and even some history lessons. John Lannom organized the November 20 trip and we're still wondering if that was just to have more bodies to help him carry his loot from Choice Woods.



Clay Johnson - Chief Cook & Bottle Washer at Choice Woods

Clay Johnson was on hand to greet all the travelers and make them feel at home. He even arranged to bring in deli sandwiches and keep us and our check books right there in his shop. Figured Australian woods and Ambrosia Maple was everywhere! A big Thank

You to Clay and his staff for having all of us in at one time.

After lunch we made off to the Louisville Slugger Factory and Museum for our very own private tour and behind-the-scenes look at the history of bat making. While it's sad



to recognize the fact that hand turning of the bats is becoming a lost art, it is hard to argue with the efficiency of the current production machines and methods. Also kind of a bummer to see what looked like perfectly good turning wood being sliced up and headed to the burn pile.

It was a fun and worthwhile day spent with friends.



Wonder if we can start a fire by rubbing these together . . . ?



Dave & Bob try to blend in with the crowd at the bat factory.

### 2001-2003 Elected Officers

- **President:** Earl Choromokos  
513.771.5908 echoromo@fuse.net
- **Vice President:** Dave Morriscal  
513.771.5205 dmorriscal@aol.com
- **Treasurer:** Bruce Gibson  
513.522.2515 bgibs@fuse.net
- **Secretary:** Joe Keeler  
513.233.0493 jgklr2732@aol.com

Demonstration meetings generally held  
the 3rd Saturday of the month  
8:30 am to 3:30 pm  
September through May

Annual Membership \$25  
(\$20 for AAW members)  
Includes monthly newsletter

**Program Chairman:** John Lannom  
513.683.3129 jlannom@fuse.net

Send articles to:  
**Newsletter Editor:** Pete Kekel  
4175 Farmwood Court  
Erlanger KY 41018-2882  
2ndnature@fuse.net



## Turning 2003 - Symposium Update

### Get On The List

He's making a list, he's checking it twice, gonna find out . . . who's not signed up to help with the Turning 2003 Symposium. No, not Santa Claus, but Dave Morrival is looking for volunteers to fill the slots as Guest Turners at the upcoming symposium in October. This would be a 1-1/4 hour time slot giving you a chance to show off a specialty of yours that the other attendees would like to see. Just from looking at the show-and-tell table every month at our meetings it's easy to tell that there are dozens of qualified candidates for these spots. If having your name listed in the same program as Richard Raffan, et al, isn't enough for you, the OVWG will pick up the meal portion of your registration fees. This is a \$70 value and all because you can spin a piece of wood and make it look like something.

There are other tasks that need help and over to the right is the list of folks heading up the different areas of responsibilities for the big show. You can tell from the list that we are going to need a large, diverse group of volunteers to

help pull this thing off and top our last event. Please be sure and contact the task leader that is heading up the team you would like to be on. Don't wait too long or all the easy jobs will be taken!

### 5th Turner Announced

Mike Mahoney has agreed to join us at the Turning 2003 Symposium and rounds out a great cast of featured turners. Mike does beautiful nested bowl sets from some of the nicest burls seen anywhere, plus does production turning and probably makes about as many bowls as anyone. This will give us a first hand look at both sides of his turnings - speed and artistic talents. Mike is also an instructor at Craft Supplies in Utah and will be able to help all of us understand his techniques that are used in his turning. Mike rounds out the

list of featured turners, so now our line up looks like this:

**Bonnie Klein, Washington State**

**Michael Lee, Hawaii**

**Mike Mahoney, Utah**

**Richard Raffan, Australia**

**Al Stirt, Vermont**

Looks like we're running out of excuses why you shouldn't attend and volunteer to be a part of the biggest turning event in the Midwest in 2003!



*Nested bowls turned by Mike Mahoney*

### Turning 2003 Symposium Task Leaders

<b>Symposium Project Plan</b>	<b>Earl Choromokos</b>
<b>Featured &amp; Guest Turners</b>	<b>David Morrival</b>
<b>Reservations &amp; Registrations</b>	<b>Joe Keeler</b>
<b>Finance &amp; Budget</b>	<b>Bruce Gibson</b>
<b>Advertising &amp; Marketing</b>	<b>Pete Kekel</b>
<b>Maintenance</b>	<b>Keith Bundy &amp; Jerry Bruns</b>
<b>Equipment</b>	<b>David Morrival</b>
<b>Trade Show</b>	<b>John Lannom</b>
<b>Signage</b>	<b>John Lannom</b>
<b>Audio-Visual</b>	<b>Dave Voegtly</b>
<b>Food</b>	<b>Joe Keeler</b>
<b>Demonstrator Assistants</b>	<b>Renè Keyzer-Andrè</b>
<b>Instant Gallery</b>	<b>Barbara Crockett</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Bob McFalls</b>
<b>Auction</b>	<b>Joe Keeler</b>
<b>Entertainment</b>	<b>Barbara Crockett</b>

### OVWG MENTORS

**If you would like help getting started or working out a problem, feel free to call any of the names listed below. As always, there is NO CHARGE to members of the Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild.**

<b>Northeast/Tri-County:</b>	<b>Earl Choromokos 513.771.5908</b>
	<b>Bruce Gibson 513.522.2515</b>
	<b>Dave Morrival 513.771.5205</b>
<b>Loveland:</b>	<b>John Lannom 513.683.3129</b>
<b>Kenton County, KY:</b>	<b>Bob McFalls 859.331.5270</b>
<b>Campbell County, KY:</b>	<b>Keith Bundy 859.781.5414</b>
<b>East Side:</b>	<b>Gary Brackett 513.474.0486</b>
	<b>Joe Keeler 513.233.0493</b>
<b>Dayton:</b>	<b>Jim Burrowes 937.878.8051</b>
	<b>Lowell Converse 937.426.2646</b>
	<b>Renè Keyzer-Andrè 937.277.4717</b>

**Contact: Dave Morrival, Mentoring Chairman, with any changes, or if you'd like to join the great group of talented volunteers.**



## President's Letter

Happy New Year! I hope this note finds all happy, wealthy and wise!

With a new year, it seems appropriate to reflect upon the past year in the guild. 2002 was a very good year!

1. Our membership is growing faster than we could ever have hoped.
2. Outstanding professional demonstrators visited us.
3. Hands-on instruction at meetings and in members' homes went well.
4. A mentor program, rarely emulated by other guilds.
5. An updated and expanded newsletter, improving what was already well done.
6. Field trips to interesting places.
7. Contests showcased the talent bounty in the guild.
8. A Banquet which was quite fulfilling!
9. A slightly-brisk Picnic where warm friendships kept us toasty!

It will be a challenge to surpass last year, but we will! 2003 will start with a contest and banquet. Guest demonstrators, in-home-studio hands-on instruction sessions, a picnic and a contest are on the agenda. The Turning 2003 Symposium in October will feature internationally known turners and the best local and regional turners.

Last year we demonstrated

our craft in many different avenues. We will continue to bring our talents to many locations next year.

Look for a change in our website. I have appointed John Wake and Mike Nelson to head our Website Committee. Look for a new look and exciting new features!

Last month the Guild demonstrated at Mueller's on Friday and Saturday. Five lathes were turning all day, both days. Chips were knee-deep all around! Thanks to Dave Morrical for procuring the wood for the occasion. Many members participated, including John Lannom, Dave Morrical, Jim Burrows, Barbara Crockett, Pete Kekel, John Wake, Renè Keyzer-Andrè, Buzz Holtkamp, Chris Erwin, Jim Goethel, Keith Bundy, Joe Keeler and yours truly. My sincere apologies to any I may have missed. This also points out why this group is so great. When we need help on any project, there is always a healthy response!

Don't forget our January contest. Get turning on the plywood and see how really creative we can be!

For the turners, yours truly,

Earl Christmas



### CLASSIFIEDS!

**ANCHORSEAL** \$6 / gallon  
Available in 1, 2 or 5 gallon containers.

Contact: Pete Kekel  
859.525.4092  
2ndnature@fuse.net

**LATHE** Jet Model 1236  
Includes stand and extras.  
Excellent condition and motor runs good.  
Asking \$350  
Call for details.



Contact: Keith Bundy  
859.781.5414  
bundyk@email.uc.edu

**SCROLLSAW** Delta 18"  
Model 40-601 electronic variable speed with stand and assorted blades. Like new condition.  
Original cost \$779.95

Asking \$350  
Can be brought to the next club meeting.



Contact: Chuck Bellanca  
606.759.7905  
bellanca@ekns.net



## November Meeting A Huge Success

For those of you that thought the November meeting was just going to be "some guys turning a bowl" and decided to pass on attending, you missed out. Yes, some guys did turn a bowl (or two) but, as always, the OVWG monthly meeting was so much more than that. The Dave Morrical



stand-up comedy routine, this time with a bowl gouge in hand, was worth the price of admission. Mueller Tools had a back room set up for our meeting and let us use the new Delta lathe and even had a dust collector hooked up for a real live demonstration. Right off the bat the questions were flying - from new and old members alike. John Lannom and Joe Keeler both showed several shop "trade secrets" that should be worth a try to eve-



Once again, Joe proves he's handy to have around.



ryone. We were all given discount cards for Muellers, just for being an OVWG member. Lunchtime gave us the opportunity to set the record for most pepperoni consumed in Reading OH since the stuff was invented. We also got the opportunity to wish Frank & Cheri Bauer good-bye and good luck on their new adventure in Florida. I'm sure it's going to be a full time job to be our roving correspondent **and** to find all of the Norfolk Island Pine that we need up here.



## Send In Your Membership Dues

**Membership dues for 2003 are being collected now until the end of January, but all dues must be paid in full by the end of that month (January 2003). We will update our roster and mailing list at that time and anyone who has not paid their dues will be left out. Your dues can be mailed to Bruce Gibson, 10047 Lakeside Drive, Cincinnati OH 45231, or given to him at one of the monthly meetings. Please make checks payable to Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild (OVWG). If you are a member in good standing of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW), your annual OVWG dues are \$20; if you are not a member of AAW, the dues are \$25. Please fill out the attached form and include it with your check.**

\*\*\*\*\*

### 2003 OVWG Membership Renewal Form

**Dues are payable now. They are \$25 annually. A \$5 discount is applied to AAW members making their total \$20.**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a member of the AAW. Remittance \$20

\_\_\_\_\_ I am not a member of the AAW. Remittance \$25

**(It is understood that only members of the AAW (General Members) are entitled to vote, hold office or conduct demonstrations.) Non-voting members are encouraged to upgrade their membership by joining the AAW. See Bruce Gibson for applications.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



## Website Under Construction

Stay tuned for some exciting changes to the OVWG website. We had 2 members step forward to volunteer their time and services to undertake the task of re-building and maintaining our club presence on the world wide web. **Mike Nelson** and **John Wake** are the cyber-bugs that put up their hands when Earl asked for volunteers. If you think you know something about computers, you should read some of the email messages that have been passed back and forth between the new website committee and other members of the club. I'm sure they



Surf's up! Watch for changes to the OVWG website coming soon.

Be sure and thank both John and Mike for donating their time to help make our club better for all the members. If you have any ideas or suggestions for them, be sure and pass them along. It's hard to measure how many people view our presence on the web, but we continue to get notes and comments from around the globe.

even have their own secret handshake and quite possibly some funny hats to wear when they are performing their high tech magic.



## Tool Review - General Maxi Lathe

### Another New Lathe?

Well, it turns out for me that the new Serious lathe is all I had hoped for. But, it's too much lathe for the small stuff, so I was making ornament icicles, bottle stoppers, etc. on my Jet mini, which was well up to the job. Then I went to Woodwerks in Columbus right after Ron Damon got his shipment of the new General "Maxilathe". I liked it right away and with a price of \$299 decided to sell the Jet and make the deal. I haven't regretted it.

Here's what I liked:

To start, at 100+ pounds, the lathe is some 40 pounds heavier than the Jet or Delta mini. Weight means stability and I can tell the difference. Downside is that it takes more muscle to move it if I need to take it with me. So for true portability, lighter might be better. There always seems to be a tradeoff.

Belt changes are a bit simpler with the headstock pulley out-

**“. . . at 100+ pounds, the lathe is some 40 pounds heavier than the Jet or Delta . . .”**

board of the bearings and fully exposed, although the lower pulley is a bit crowded by the surrounding casting. And you do have to remove the headstock pulley cover for access, although this is straightforward and simple. I removed the access door to the lower pulley, just as I did on the Jet. Speeds are similar to Jet and Delta with about 500rpm the slowest.

The lock levers and the switch are more robust and to my mind, more user friendly. There are stops so the levers don't overtravel and lock inadvertently. It is, unfortunately, possible to bump into the switch and accidentally turn the machine off when working from the end of the lathe.

The tailstock quill has a keyway for alignment and a separate lock lever for locking the quill in position. Thus the quill can't rotate when the lock is released as can happen on the other minis.

The feet are independently

adjustable for height and leveling. I've set this lathe on the stand without bolting it down and it's level and doesn't move. And on a good day I can pick it up and take it and the stand with me.

Fit and finish are equivalent to most Taiwan built machines. I spent an hour cleaning up rough castings, sanding and smoothing the bed, and otherwise tuning the machine. A bed extension is available.

This mini General isn't the solution for everyone, but for the price it's a sweet machine. Not a Oneway 1018 at a fourth the cost, but like I said, there always seems to be a tradeoff. So if you're looking for a mini, don't overlook the General Maxilathe.

Lowell Converse



Ohio Valley Woodturners Guild

4175 Farmwood Court  
Erlanger KY 41018-2882

Email: 2ndnature@fuse.net

We're on the web!  
[www.ovwg.org](http://www.ovwg.org)



**ADDRESS CORRECTION  
REQUESTED**

## Demo Days and Tool Sale!

Mueller Tools was having their annual Christmas sale and Open House on December 6 & 7 and called the OVWG to supply some turning fun for any interested on-lookers. Naturally we responded and kept 5 lathes busy the better part of 2 days. It was good to see some new faces mixed in with the usual group of club demonstrators. Now if we could just work out a commission deal on all the lathes we

helped to sell . . . It was hard to pick out the single best highlight of the 2 days; FREE lasagna, not having to sweep up shavings, money off on the tools of your choice



"So, how come all those shavings kept hitting me in the face?"



Barb Crockett turning an old, crummy piece of Cherry into a very useful 2 gallon Margarita chalice.

or the fact that after it was all over Gary Brackett finally got to take some green wood home to his new shop. It was a fun time and a good chance to cultivate some new members and do a little showing off. All of the demonstrators were busy answering questions as well as turning.



Earl wows 'em with one of his mini specialties.



Buzz Holtkamp takes his turn.