



*Journal Of*  
**The North Carolina Woodturners' Association**

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VOL. 1, NO. 2

October, 1991

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THE SEARCH FOR THE EDGE

"It is difficult for me to convey the many aspects of turning that make it such an appealing pursuit. There are interesting problems to solve, unexpected discoveries of beauty in woods and forms, and constant stimulation for the mind and body. The continuing challenge is the search for the edge -risking failure in order to create something fresh and unique." -Dewey N. Garrett

From "A Focus On Hidden Talent," AMERICAN WOODTURNER, September, 1991

Perhaps because of both my love of woodturning and my experience as a language arts teacher, I am continually searching for statements by others that give light and focus to the almost unbelievable popularity of woodturning throughout the world today. I thought that this statement by Dewey Garrett was one of the most significant ones that I have read in recent months. Woodturning has emerged out of the realm of pure craft into that of a genuine art form. This does not mean that all who turn are artists any more than are all who paint or play musical instruments. But it does mean that a true artist can pursue his love of art through this medium and find recognition and reward for his accomplishment. All of the great discoveries of civilization were made by people who were willing to "search for the edge" and risk failure in their efforts to fulfill their dreams. For the accomplished turner, this might mean finally being accepted by an exclusive gallery after a very critical review. For the beginning turner, perhaps it might be turning a thin-walled, natural top bowl or delicate goblet for the first time. Standing ankle deep in shavings and admiring what you have just finished turning may not qualify you as an artist, but it is moving in the right direction. -K. B.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our September meeting at Rodger Jacobs' studio in Newland was a great success. Demonstrations of hollow vessel turning by Dave Sengel and bowl turning by Rodger were most professionally done, and much was learned. It becomes obvious that the use of "heavy duty tools" is a must to hollow out large vessels in a reasonable amount of time. We are fortunate to have these two professionals in our chapter.

The October 12 meeting will feature a demonstration of the Centaro T-4 Hydraulic Copy Lathe, using a template to quickly produce small runs of turned spindles. There will also be a hands-on workshop for helping members with "problem tools." Turning stock will be available. Ken Bachand will show and demonstrate some aspects of the Stewart Tool System.

There is no free lunch! The matter of club dues in the future is directly proportional to the services that members desire. The monthly newsletter is currently our most expensive item. Most other associations are at \$20.00 dues and still rely on donations to produce their newsletters. Those of

who have paid \$250 and more for a woodturning workshop realize what a terrific bargain this NCW Chapter is. Be prepared to discuss what you expect in the way of services and what you are willing to pay (\$) at the October meeting.

AAW Anyone who is serious about woodturning must join the national organization and receive the quarterly journal. The September issue will boggle the mind with inside-out turnings. \$20.00 per year is a bargain for the best projects from America's finest turners. -Tony Bradley

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Our bylaws require that we nominate officers in October. The nominees will be voted on in November and installed in December. The present Board of Directors was elected to serve for one year, so the entire Board will be up for reelection (five members), as are all of the officers. The new Board will draw numbers for staggered terms (1 to 3 years). All other officers will serve for one year.

#### SADDENING NEWS

At our September meeting in Newland, Rodger Jacobs<sup>told</sup> about Knud Oland's unfortunate illness, subsequent surgery, and the fact that his recovery was not likely. He died just two days before the writing of this issue of the Journal. He is survived by his wife Lisi and daughter Helen.

Several of our members got their start in woodturning by attending Knud's classes in Brasstown and may wish to express personal condolences. The Board of Directors will consider how we as a group might best show our appreciation for Knud's significant contribution to woodturning in North Carolina.

Lisi's address is - Route 1, Brasstown, NC 28902

#### FROM THE LIBRARIAN

This is a reminder to all members that we are trying to prepare a complete bibliography of all books, videos, and other media items that we own. We are asking that all such items be returned to the October meeting so that we can complete this hurriedly and make all these materials available again for you to check out. If you have a book or video and do not plan to be at the October meeting, please return it by mail or by another member. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

#### EXOTIC TURNING STOCK

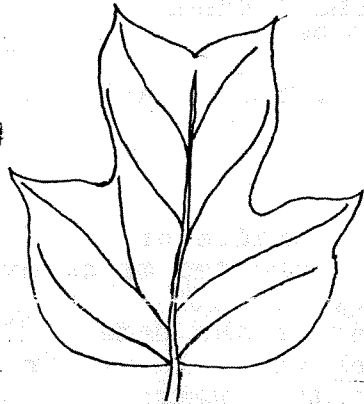
We mentioned Global Veneer Sales of High Point in our last journal as a possible source of exotic turning stock. We expect to have Wesley Blair at our October meeting to explain his services and show some samples. It is our understanding that he will also bring an assortment of stock to be used in our raffle.

#### A WOODTURNER'S MERRY CHRISTMAS

In the President's Message, Tony pointed out the need for each of us to join AAW and receive the quarterly journal. Well, there's one thing wrong with the AMERICAN WOODTURNER -it is only quarterly! Maybe as membership grows, this wonderful journal will become bi-monthly. I can hardly wait! If you are trying to figure out turning ideas for the holidays, the current issue is for you -beautiful, delicate bells and dazzling, icicled ornaments, in addition to the *inside-out* decorative turnings that Tony mentioned. And the tree, completely decorated with turned ornaments and gifts by the Utah Chapter of AAW would be second only

to a brand new super lathe on a woodturner's Christmas morning. This tree decorated with over 250 ornaments and gifts was done for the annual "Festival of the Trees," and was auctioned for about \$1500. The money was given to a children's medical fund. Could we do something like that?

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REGARDING YELLOW POPLAR

By Walt Hoyles

In our discussions, one with another, we often become confused as to what we are talking about.

As it concerns trees, most of the confusion comes from the use of common names. Many such common names are used only in a small geographic location, outside of which these names may be unknown. Sometimes certain species may be known by several different common names within the same geographic area.

To be more specific in our discussions, we offer resort to generic or scientific nomenclature, while still using the common names accepted as standard for particular species. In authoritative works, these common names are sometimes listed and may help in clearing up misnomers.

It is not the purpose of this article to be critical of name usage, but to make our awareness of various species more pleasurable. Much material is available in our libraries and book stores to help us in identifying trees by a number of methods. These may include winter characteristics, such as twig details and shape, summer leaf, flower, and seed ; and perhaps fall colors.

One tree with which most of us are familiar is commonly referred to as poplar. This tree is known around the world be arborists as Liriodendron tulipifera (Lirion - lily or tulip) and (dendron - tree) It may seem strange to think of this tree as other than a member of the poplars; however it is a member of the magnolia family -Magnoliaceae. True poplars are members of the willow family, known as Salicaceae. Common names for our subject tree are, in order of their general acceptance, Tulip Tree, Tulipwood, Tulip poplar, Poplar, and in some southern states, Whitewood.

The timber cutter may recognize this tree by one <sup>name</sup>, while the forester, arborist, or finished lumber merchant may each use another name. Adding to the confusion, other persons in these same pursuits, but in other geographical areas, may use different names.

With all this in mind, you might want to get a good tree identification book and introduce yourself to a new way of enjoying wood. One of the best books for beginners is FIELD GUIDE TO TREES AND SHRUBS, edited by Roger Tory Peterson and sponsored by the National Audubon Society and the National Wildlife Federation

On the same theme, but in reference to a different tree, let me mention that I read an article in the British journal WOODTURNING, (Winter, 1991) by Ernie Conover entitled "Turning Tagua," in which he

refers to the American horse chestnut as the Ohio State Tree, to which, being a native "Buckeye" I take strong exception. The book that I mentioned above gives the Aesculus glabra, Ohio or Smooth Buckeye as the state tree. It also states that the Horse Chestnut, Aesculus hypocastanum, is a foreign import and should in no way be considered a native species. USDA Yearbook of Agriculture, P. 824, further identifies this tree as being native to the Balkan Peninsula. Gray's Manual of Botany has it as being an import from southeastern Europe.

From these examples, we can see how easy it is for confusion to arise out of the use of common names.

#### EDITOR'S NOTE

I asked Walt to write this article after a visit to the Cradle of Forestry with the Apple Country Woodcrafters, when he corrected me on my identification of the "Tulip Tree" as a "Tulip Poplar." I had always called this beautiful tree a poplar because that is the name commonly used for it in the area where I live. A quick check in my own tree identification book proved him right. Walt spent many years with the National Park Service, is a member of the International Wood Collectors Society, and has a good working knowledge of a great variety of trees and shrubs. How great it is that we have someone with his knowledge and experience in our chapter.

#### LAST MINUTE NOTES

Regarding Tony's statement that I would be demonstrating the Stewart System Tools, let me note that we may not have time for very much of this, considering Board and officer nominations and other things on the program. I will, however, bring the tools and have them on display. If others of you who have these tools would bring some too, we can show them more quickly to all who are interested. I will also bring Dennis Stewart's demonstration tape, which shows each part of the tool system in operation. Actually, this will be better in that I have not yet used the entire system.

#### REMINDER

We still have Sea-tite 60 green wood sealer available in bulk for \$7.00 a gallon or \$6.00 a gallon if five gallons or more is purchased. This is less than half what it will cost if you order it through a catalog supplier.

Also, Tony has cyanoacrylate glue, solvent, and hardener at a saving over outside prices.

Don't forget that if you are having particular problems with certain tools, whether turning or sharpening, bring your tools and let someone who knows more about it help you with your problem. That's what NCW is all about! Be sure to mark your tools with some identification so we don't go home with the wrong stuff.

By gosh, I did fill the last page!! -K. B.