



*North Carolina*  
**WOODTURNER**

**Journal of the North Carolina Woodturners Association**  
*A Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners*

Volume 9, Number 9

September, 1999



*Hollow Form with Finial*  
*By Clyde Hall, High Point, NC*

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## The President's Message

By Edgar Ingram

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November is fast approaching when it will be time for our mini-symposium. Jack Stewart and Roger Austin have scheduled an outstanding group of demonstrators. Topics on the program range from basic bowl turning to more advanced techniques and designs. There should be something of interest for all levels of turners.

The library is one of the outstanding benefits of membership in NCWA. It is set up to be self-supporting with the rent for videos and books being used to purchase new items. For the library to benefit all members, videos and books should be returned or renewed in a timely fashion and in good condition. There have been instances when videos have been returned without their jacket and some cases where they had been taped over with TV shows. Enough said.

In an effort to generate local publicity prior to the mini-symposium, I have arranged for a show at the Iredell Museum of Arts and Heritage in Statesville. The show is to open October 3 and run through November 7. This is to be in addition to and should not take away from the instant gallery during the symposium. This is an opportunity to show our art and craft to a wider audience, not just to ourselves.

Speaking of symposiums, remember the AAW symposium is coming up in June 2000 in Charlotte. One of the features at the AAW is a chapter collaborative project in which a number of people collaborate to create a large piece which is entered in competition. Since I have been a member, NCWA has not entered a collaborative project. With the AAW being in Charlotte and NCWA being one of the host clubs, I would like to see us enter one next year. What we need to make this work is a volunteer to work on a design and get it rolling. Do I hear a chorus of **yes, I'll take it on?**

If at all possible, you don't want to miss the September meeting. Talmadge Murphy has figured out a way to turn bowls with handles on them. Be sure to come and see how he does it. Oh, and by the way, don't forget to bring some of your works for the gallery.

Good turning, see you in Hickory on September 11 and don't forget the gallery.

Edgar

### **NORTH CAROLINA WOODTURNER** Journal of the North Carolina Woodturners Association

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Route 7, Box 137, Hendersonville, NC 28791

**Editor: Bonner Guilford**  
1371 Perth Road, Troutman, NC 28166  
(704) 332-2149 bguil@bellsouth.net

**Contributing Editor: Mark Sakatos**

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<b>Vice President:</b> Dean Amos, Sandy Ridge	(336) 871-2916
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#### Member News

By Mary Bachand

Our best wishes go out to members that have been ill or under the weather lately. Our Vice President, Dean Amos has been improving and we look forward to having him back soon. Similarly, Dick Nielsen, Program Chairman, is recovering from surgery at home. Our Past President, Jack Stewart, is also recently post op. Our very best wishes go out to all of these friends. Let us know if we can be of any help guys.

#### Library Notes

By Mary Bachand

The following have had library materials out for prolonged periods and should attempt to return them as soon as possible. Steve Grahame-2 videos since May, Cliff Reynolds-3 videos since May. Of course, there is a charge of one dollar per video for each month that the item is overdue. If the item is lost or destroyed, then the current replacement cost of the book or video will be assessed.

## Coming Events

By Dick Nielsen

The program for September promises to be a real winner. Talmadge Murphy, from the Brasstown Club, will join us to demonstrate his prowess with Multiple Axis Turning. He is well known for his ability to turn vessels with ears (handles). This is a good chance to learn something out of the ordinary from a great turner with skill on the lathe as well as the ability to educate and explain his processes clearly. Highly Recommended.

September 11, 1999	1:00pm	Multiple Axis Turning	Talmadge Murphy
October 9, 1999	10:00a.m.	Annual Club Outing	Penland School, Penland, NC
November 6-7, 1999		Third Carolina Woodturning Symposium	Statesville, NC

## Gallery Notes

By Dean Amos

As always, the gallery was full of wonderful items turned by both new and old members. Ornaments, hollow forms, soapstone, plates, clock and one exquisite telephone. Many thanks to all who brought their work to share: Clyde Hall, Don Olsen, Edgar Ingram, Bill Young, Scott Ollis, Harold Lineberger, Tom Fritz, Mark Sakatos, Jane Sunier, Lenard Sullivan, J.T. Barker, Don Jafvert and Anatoly Tsiris. (The name cards for several pieces were picked up before we got them so we don't know the turners for these. Please let us know at the next meeting and identify your photos.)

## Challenge Project

By Dean Amos

**August Challenge.** Congratulations to Tom Fitz on winning the prize for his new and old open vessels. Both the old and new were well made, but progress definitely showed through. Enjoy the gift certificate Tom.

**September Challenge.** The Write Stuff. For our September Challenge, bring in your best pen or writing instrument. Any material or style is allowable, so long as it writes. Good time to start on the Xmas gifts anyway.

### Special October Collaborative Challenge.

For our challenge in October, we plan something a little different. We would like to promote collaboration among our members in the following contest. NCWA members should gather in **teams of three or more** to produce a turned project of any type or design to which each team member contributes. Size of the finished item should be **no greater than three feet in any dimension**. Pick your partners carefully—there will be a **\$100 prize to the winning team** and the winning entry will be shown at the Symposium. High consideration will be shown to design and integration of individual contributions. How about a little good natured competition for this one? Time to get started.

## Raffle Report

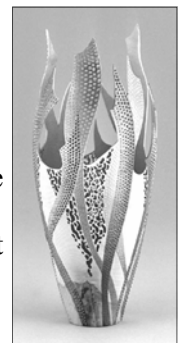
By J.T. Barker

This month we were again fortunate to have a double gift. Clyde Hall gave us both a very nice demo on Christmas ornaments and also graciously donated his demo ornament for the auction. Thanks on both accounts! The Wood Working Shop also donated two nice books: *Essential Jigs, Aids and Devices* and *Tricks of the Trades*. Congratulations to Lenard Sullivan on winning the Stoney Lamar sculpture...remember we expect a finished piece back in the gallery! I have had several favorable comments as to the method currently used to do the raffle and so plan to continue with this format. As always, please feel free to offer any suggestions and remember, donations for the raffle are always welcome and definitely appreciated.

## Frank Sudol

Remember, the special raffle offered by NCWA for the valuable and beautiful Frank Sudol open form still has available tickets. Only 300 were printed so your \$5.00 investment can show remarkable return. Time is running out to buy your chance to own this true artwork. The proceeds are used to fund Frank and similar artists who come to

NCWA as Demonstrators. As a member of NCWA, you have first chance to purchase these tickets. If any remain, they will be made available to other turners, so buy now, buy often. Think how good it would look on your mantle, or, take a deduction and donate it to the Mint Museum of Craft + Design.



## August Program Review

By Mark Sakatos

## Christmas Ornaments and Pull String Tops

Clyde Hall

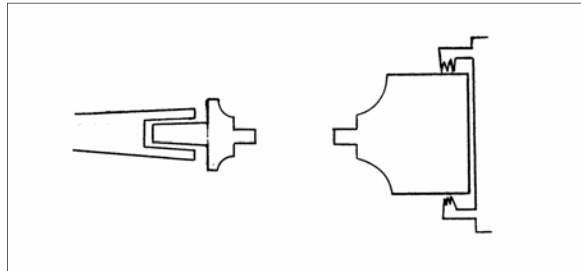


You'll remember Clyde from his November 1998 demonstration on lollipop candlestick holders. In his no nonsense manner, he once again stepped up to bat and smacked a home run with a clear and concise presentation on making Christmas ornaments and pull string tops. With only four months left until Christmas what better time to become acquainted with these two projects. Give them a try.

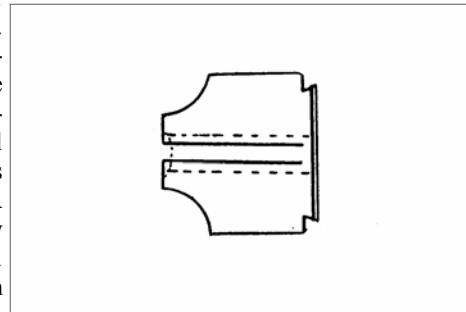
### Christmas Ornaments

This project begins with three pieces of wood (1 1/4" square, 2 3/4" diameter x 3/4" thick disk with a 3/8" center hole, and a 4 1/2" x 1" x 1" rectangle for the top. The choice of woods is a question of personal preference (Clyde's gallery ornaments featured osage orange, padauk, purple heart and bird's eye maple). Start with the disk held between 2 wooden spigots. The spigots avoid having to work too close to the chuck (see diagrams,

this section). If available use a short tool rest as well. Using a 3/8" bowl gouge round over the edges. A template isn't necessary because the dimensions are not crucial as long as the final proportions are pleasing to look at. Sharper tools and better handling will mean less sanding. The top section is initially roughed from a square blank in a chuck. It is then mounted between slightly different wood spigots. The tailstock spigot has a slightly rounded point. The chuck end has a large tenon, which flares to a flat surface, which has a mortise, or hole that will receive the ornament's top section tenon. The workpiece end has a slot that transverse the diameter almost to the bottom of the tenon. The slot is made on the bandsaw. The bottom of the tenon tapers inward and has a laminate on the end to lend rigidity. With the workpiece tenon inserted, the chuck clamps down and holds it in place. The tail section is rough turned between centers with spur drive. A tapered tenon is left on the end that will insert into the center section. It is then mounted in the same headstock spigot that had the slot. The tailstock is used with a center pin. No measuring or layout is necessary and the design possibilities are endless. When the workpiece becomes thin he supports both the workpiece and tool with one hand. He uses the 3/8" bowl gouge for 90% of the time and the 1/4" for the remainder. Any painting is done prior to assembly and lacquer is used on the natural wood segments. A hot glue gun is used for the assembly because it will bond quickly and fill any gaps. The top has a hole to receive a knotted rope or thread for hanging. Alternatively, you can use a decorative eyelet screw. The eyelet would then receive a nylon thread.



It is then mounted in the same headstock spigot that had the slot. The tailstock is used with a center pin. No measuring or layout is necessary and the design possibilities are endless. When the workpiece becomes thin he supports both the workpiece and tool with one hand. He uses the 3/8" bowl gouge for 90% of the time and the 1/4" for the remainder. Any painting is done prior to assembly and lacquer is used on the natural wood segments. A hot glue gun is used for the assembly because it will bond quickly and fill any gaps. The top has a hole to receive a knotted rope or thread for hanging. Alternatively, you can use a decorative eyelet screw. The eyelet would then receive a nylon thread.



### PULL STRING TOPS

Three parts have to be turned for this project. There is a round brace with a slotted end. The sides of the slotted ends have a hole that receives the dowel on the top. There is also the pull string handle, which has a string that runs through its center. Finally, there is the top itself. The slotted brace and the pull handle need only fit the top's dowel. Otherwise, there are no obligatory dimensions or design guidelines. The top's construction begins with a 5" x 2" x 2" blank between centers. After roughing the outside profile and leaving a tenon on the bottom mount the piece in a four-jaw chuck and hollow away. The top section is then mounted in the four-jaw chuck and a tenon formed to permit the bottom and top to be joined as you would a lidded box. The bulk of the outside of this upper section is then removed leaving a 5/16" dowel. A hole is drilled in one side of the main body about 2/3 of the way up. It must be tapered outward to catch the wind. This should make the top whistle or hum when spun. The bottom is profiled to a point, then after some light sanding it is parted off at each end. The top's dowel is inserted in the bracket. The string is run through the bracket slot onto the dowel. With one quick pull of the string, Clyde ensures that his top not only spins, but hummmmmms as well!

We extend our appreciation to Clyde for filling in for Dean Amos who could not be with us due to health reasons.

Additional articles/photos on Christmas Ornaments and Pull String Tops can be found in: *American Woodturner* – “Turned Ornaments – Getting in the Groove for Christmas”, Vol.13, No.3 (Fall 1998) p.19; *North Carolina Woodturner* – “Gallery Photos of Herb Quarles and Dick Nielson’s Christmas Tree Ornaments” Vol.8, No.1 (Jan.1998) p.8; *North Carolina Woodturner* – “Gallery Photos of Dick Nielson’s Christmas Tree Ornaments”, Vol.9, No1 (Jan 1999) p.6; *Woodturning* – “Tip Top Toy”, Iss.No.63 (May 1998) p.50; *Woodturning Traditional Folk Toys* – “Pull String Spinning Top”, by Alan and Gill Bridgewater (1994) p.78; and finally, *North Carolina Woodturner* – “October 1997 Mini-Symposium Review Photo of Pull String Tops by Dale Devine” Vol.7, No.7 (July 1997) p.4.

### Lathe Wanted

A used lathe for a beginning turner. A bench model in good condition would suffice, but would prefer a 1 inch by 8 spindle size. Also would be interested in accessories as may be available. Please contact Bill Johnston at 910-673-0500 or email: [johnston@pinehurst.net](mailto:johnston@pinehurst.net).

## UPCOMING SPECIAL

### “The Dumbest Thing I Ever Did While Woodturning Was .....

In an effort to get ALL members involved in the publishing of NC Woodturners we are trying something new. Stories such as the one that follows do not merely entertain us, they also educated or remind us to be ever vigilant where our safety and well being are concerned. None of us are immune from the hazards that befall the weary, careless or just plain dumb. Read on and see if this sounds familiar?

It’s late in the evening. You are lurking about your shop long after the “normal” non-woodturning inhabitants of the world have retired. But not you, you continue on ‘til the wee hours of the morning, your judgment somewhat impaired and fatigue is setting in. Yet, you press on. You’ll be damned if you don’t finish this deep hollow vessel before the morning. You promised the local minister that you’d have it completed for a publicity photo scheduled to be taken a week before his church’s charitable auction. Earlier that evening you swore, for the third time, to your wife that you’d knock it out with “no problem” by bedtime. It’s now 2:00 AM. Almost finished, you’re having trouble centering the vase in a spigot to complete the base. Your wife comes to the shop door and reminds you of the time. “I’ll be there directly dear” you assure her, sweat now dripping from your lip. You try centering again. Lathe on - but no luck. In fact, it wobbles worse this time. You *loosen* the tailstock to realign, and suddenly a scratching sound emanates from the outside door. Rover wants to come in. You attend to him and return to the lathe trying desperately to remember where you were. “The bottom – that’s it. I was going to finish the bottom.” You adjust your shorter tool rest close to the base to work on the bottom. You rotate your workpiece by holding the four-jaw chuck one complete revolution to assure clearance, then you fire up your lathe. In an instant your life flashes before your eyes: your birth, your family, your first home run, first kiss, your second marriage, and of course your inevitable, but imminent demise. Then, as if from hell itself, the image of your current spouse appears to you. She stands over you dressed in red leotards, high heels, and a pitchfork at the ready, while she ridicules you in a high pitched whine for your poor time management skills. It is true that in another context this image might have proved to be somewhat entertaining. But it is much less so in reality where you, still by your lathe at 4 AM, sweat now streaming from your ears, nose, eyebrows and lip, start over on a freshly cut log with only 8 hours remaining before the photo shoot. Alas, you forgot to realign and tighten down the tailstock. Luckily, you are uninjured. Your vase on the other hand, now shattered, is embedded like bomb fragments in your shop’s ceiling and walls.



“Oops” by Anonymous

Far fetched? Not if you’ve been turning for more than six months. If it has been longer than that I’d venture a guess that you have at least one such story for every year you spend turning. Probably more if the frequency with which you turn is intermittent, as your skills and concentration level wane from nonuse. Stories *like* this one, albeit fictional (Really -this never happened!) serve to remind us that this craft, this pastime, this profession is inher-

ently and abundantly dangerous. Please share your most prized numbskull story with your fellow turners for their entertainment and enlightenment. We will include these one-liners and short stories in upcoming issues. The responses can be a sentence or two, a paragraph, or a full page. Do not let inexperience at writing be an excuse for not sharing your thoughts and experiences. That's why we pay our publisher the "big bucks". Seriously, affirmation of our work is not the only reason we attend these meetings. We come to exchange ideas so that we may enlighten each other and affect positive change. It is the essence of our nature and is what motivates us to seek out others with shared interests. Even our brethren espousing conflicting views educate us by challenging our beliefs and by forcing us to examine our convictions. Please participate.

Responses can be returned to me by mail, hand delivery at the September meeting, dropped by my shop, or you can e-mail it as a file attachment. If you're not familiar with this procedure call me. I can open Word, Wordpad or WordPerfect documents, or any of the formats these programs can convert.

Mark Sakatos  
1768 Fairway Drive, Newton, NC 28658  
msakatos@twave.net  
Home (828) 464-6999 - Portable 381-0076

### NCWA at Penland School

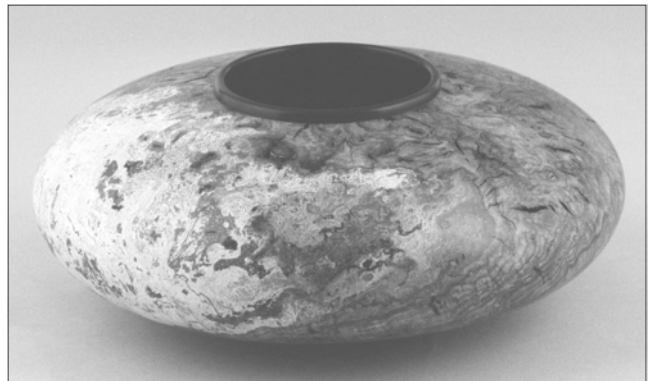
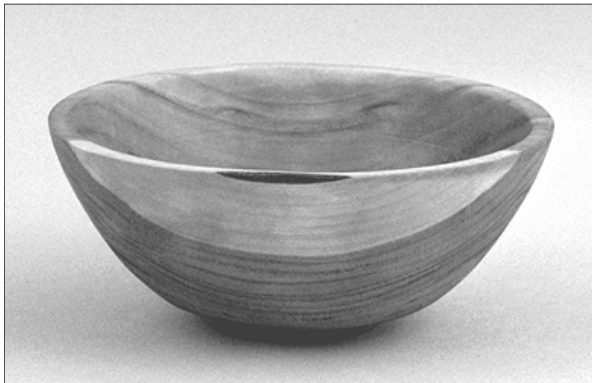
The October meeting of NCWA will be a reinstatement of our yearly turning outing in the mountains. This did not occur last year due to the sad loss of our host for the event. This year, for our October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will gather at the Penland School, Penland, NC, beginning at 10:00am for a day of fellowship and turning. In addition, we will be able to visit the facilities of Penland and see a wide variety of crafts in progress, from glassblowing to fiber art. Penland is one of the nation's finest craft schools, located squarely in the center of NCWA territory, and worthy of our full support. Penland offers classes in a wide range of crafts, with internationally known instructors, during summer sessions open to all who wish to further their craft development. The location is superb, the food is great and the October date will provide splendid weather (said confidently). Be prepared for a great introduction to our finest craft school and its' contributions to our area. While there, be sure to visit the fine gallery operated by the school as well. Parking can be tight at Penland, so try to carpool as much as possible. You will not be disappointed.

Please let us know if you are planning to attend this great event so we can better plan food and facilities. Ample lathes will be available and demos will be provided. Call, write or tell Mary Bachand if you are going to be there. 828-890-4451 or Route 7, Box 137, Hendersonville, NC 28791 or at our September meeting.

**From Asheville:** Take US 19/23 north past Mars Hill, then turn right onto US 19E towards Burnsville. Continue past Burnsville, approximately ten miles. Turn left at the Penland School sign (Texaco Station on right) onto Penland Road. Follow Penland Road for approximately four miles over a bridge and railroad tracks. One mile past the railroad tracks, bear left at the big curve onto Penland School Road (there is another Penland School sign there). Go all the way up the hill.

**From I-40:** Exit at Marion, Exit #86. Follow US 226 through Marion, over the mountain, and into the town of Spruce Pine where you will cross a bridge over railroad tracks. Turn left and continue on NC 226 for 3.5 miles. Turn left at the Penland School sign (onto Penland Road). After about 1.5 miles you'll come to a big curve. Turn sharply to the right onto Penland School Road (there is another Penland School sign there). Go all the way up the hill.

# NCW GALLERY



## GALLERY

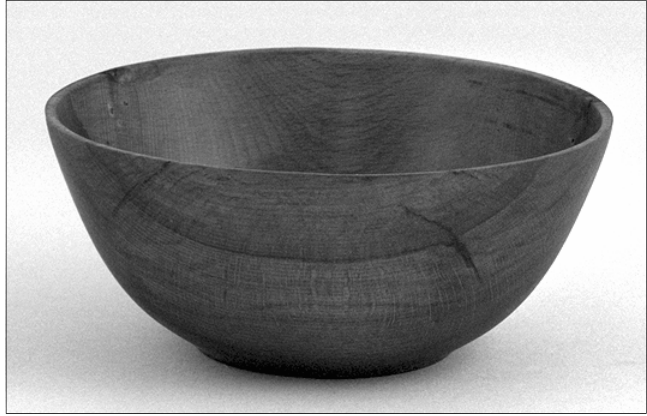
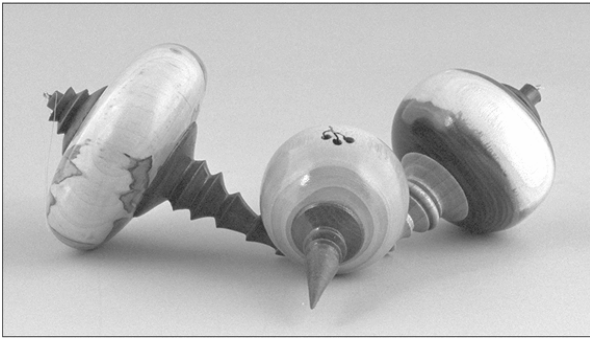
Clockwise from top left

- Anatoly Tsiris
- Don Jafvert
- David Woodruff
- Scott Ollis
- Jane Sunier

*Photos by George Wunker*



# NCW GALLERY

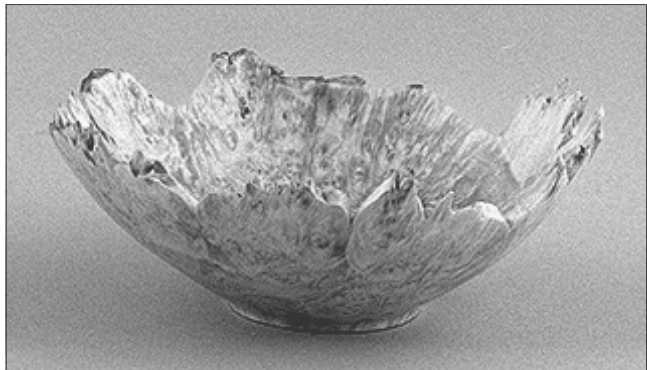


## Gallery

Clockwise from top left

- J.T. Barker
- Tom Fitz
- Edgar Ingram
- Don Olsen
- Bill Young

*Photos by George Wunker*



## Third Carolina Woodturners Symposium

The North Carolina Woodturners Association and the Triangle Woodturners of North Carolina with the co-sponsorship of Mitchell Community College, the Tidewater Woodturners of Virginia, the Brasstown Woodturners Guild and the Blue Ridge Woodturners announce the Third Carolina Woodturners Symposium. The two day event is scheduled for November 6-7, 1999 at the historic Mitchell Community College in Statesville, North Carolina.



**This event will feature local and regional talent and is designed to promote the craft of woodturning as well as renew the goodwill of woodturners and prospective woodturners throughout the region.**

For more information, Email Roger Austin ([twnc.rtpnet.org](mailto:twnc.rtpnet.org)) or call Mary Bachand at (828)890-4451 for a registration form by snail mail.

### Features

- **Presentations:** Four concurrent sessions of woodturning presentations and demonstrations in five rotations over two days. This means that you will have 15 to 20 choices in woodturning education. These sessions will have the latest audio-visual equipment to promote viewing and understanding.
- **Gallery:** A gallery room will be set up in the student center facility. This will feature turnings from the attendees as well as a special chapter area for each of the sponsors and hosts. Attendees are encouraged to bring two or three pieces depending on size. The 1997 gallery was something to behold.
- **Saturday Night Reception:** A reception is tentatively scheduled in the Student Center across from the Vocational Building on Saturday evening. Attendees are on their own for Supper and the reception/social will start at 7:30 p.m. adjacent to the gallery area.
- **Accommodations:** Rooms have been blocked for the symposium in three hotels located near the college. Reservations are the responsibility of the attendee and should be made early to get these rates.  
Holiday Inn Express, 704 Sullivan Road, \$64+tax, (704)872-4101, 40 rooms (Nov 5&6), Exit 151, I-40 & US 21.  
Hampton Inn, 715 Sullivan Road, \$56+tax, (704)878-2721, 20 rooms (Nov 6), Exit 151, I-40 & US 21.

Holiday Inn, 1215 Garner Bagnal Blvd., \$60+tax (704)878-9691, 10 rooms (Nov 5&6), Exit 49A, I-77 & US70.

- **Campgrounds:**  
KOA Campground, 162 KOA Lane, (704)873-5560  
Midway Campground Resort, 114 Midway Drive, (704)546-7615.
- **Cost:** Registration fee is \$55 per turner and \$10 for a spouse registration. There is a \$30 charge for any one day. This includes lunch on Sunday afternoon.

## Confirmed Demonstrators

<b>Terry Brown of Durham</b> on Spindle Turning. Terry is the current Vice-President of the Triangle Woodturners of North Carolina and a professional woodworker at the Y&J Furniture of Durham where they make and repair reproduction furniture. Terry will do two sessions on basic spindle turning techniques as applied to furniture making. This would include laying out patterns and duplication.
<b>Ruben Everett and Myron Curtis</b> of Virginia Beach, VA will share a session on multicentered trivets.
<b>Roy Fisher of Graham, NC</b> is a member of the TWNC and NCWA. He has attended a number of workshops in turning and will present sessions on basic woodturning techniques.
<b>Clyde Hall of High Point, NC.</b> He is a member of NCWA and will present a session on turning lollipop candle holders.
<b>Alan Hollar of Newland, NC.</b> He will present a session on finishing for woodturners. Alan presented a warmly received session on the same subject in 1997.
<b>Bill Hyatt of Cullowhee, NC</b> is a member of the NCWA, a very experienced woodturners, and a retired lawyer. He will present sessions on natural forms.
<b>Rodger Jacobs of Newland, NC</b> is a professional woodturner, educator, and artist. He will present sessions on legged vessels which is a prelude to his session at Arrowmont in 2000.
<b>Bill Johnston of West End</b> in Moore County, North Carolina is a member of both NCWA and TWNC and a long term student and teacher of woodturning. He is a professional woodturner and specializes in hollow turnings. He is a retired educator and will present sessions on his methods of turning hollow forms.
<b>Alan Leland of Durham, NC</b> is a custom furnituremaker and craftsman in the RTP area. He is a long time member of the TWNC and will be teaching a workshop on lamination projects at the Crafts Center at NC State University in the Fall. He will present a session on lamination projects.
<b>Talmadge Murphey</b> of Franklin, NC is a very experienced Brasstown member who will do a presentation on carving on turnings.
<b>Mark St. Leger of Pearisburg, Virginia</b> has been a featured demonstrator at national and regional symposia. He is a professional educator and a member of the Blue Ridge Woodturners. He is a career carpenter/cabinetmaker who has gone into vocational training on the high school level. He has been a serious turner for over ten years.
<b>Herb Quarles of Flat Rock, NC</b> is a long time NCWA member and professional woodturner. He will present sessions on basic bowl turning and the non-standard use of tools & creating texture and color in woodturnings.
<b>Jerry Whiteside</b> of Virginia Beach, VA will do a presentation on basic bowl turning.
<b>Please Note:</b> All presentations are subject to change due to special circumstances which are beyond the control of the host chapters and organizers.

Contact **Roger Austin** or **Mary Bachand** for your information packets or reservations. As you can see from the above listing, there is much to learn at the **Carolina Woodturning Symposium**.