

## February Lathe Tool Sharpening

### Presentation

The Board of Directors will present a demonstration of lathe tool sharpening information, equipment, and techniques at the February 9, 2008 meeting of the Bay Area Woodturners Association. There will also be an opportunity for the members present to sharpen their own tools at one of the several grinder workstations that will be provided. In the absence of a vice president, the current Board of Directors has decided to job share the responsibilities for this position until someone from our membership volunteers for the job. The tool making presentation previously scheduled has been postponed for a later date. The BOD is working to plan the presentations for David Ellsworth on March 15, Jack DeVos on April 5, and Graeme Priddle on May 17. All is progressing smoothly. If you are available to help with some of the arrangements, you can contact Wayne Shipman to find out the details.

Bob Ellis, Wayne Shipman, and Jim Abreu will be your experts at the February 9 meeting. They will entertain you with their ability to identify all lathe tools by placing them into three categories. They are asking that all members bring their personal tools for discussion opportunities, critiques, and sharpening. The presentation will include choosing a grinder and grinding wheels (be sure to read the article by Jim Rodgers, "Stones and Grinders" in this issue). A brief discussion of grinder setup and selecting/installing grinder wheels will be included. Some of the time will be used to introduce commercial versus homemade jigs and fixtures. You are encouraged bring your grinder and sharpening attachments and to participate in this discussion. Tool conditioning is a big part of buying a new lathe tool and it will be addressed at this meeting.

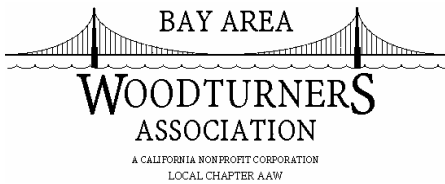
Bob Ellis will demonstrate skew sharpening. He will show us is special technique for honing the skew

with a lathe mounted honing attachment. Wayne Shipman will condition a ½" new bowl gouge fresh out of the package. He will demonstrate the 2:4:7 ratio used to produce the Ellsworth fingernail grind. Jim Abreu will use his expertise to show the technique for sharpening a scraper. He will also answer the question, "to burr or not to burr"? Bob, Wayne,



and Jim want you to bring your skews, bowl gouges, and scrapers to this meeting. Immediately following the scraper sharpening demonstration, we will form a group around each of the three presenters for a more in depth discussion about these tools. The last action item of the day will be your opportunity to sharpen your own lathe tools. If time permits, we will close with a final discussion by all members regarding the sharpening of lathe tools.

~Wayne Shipman



The Bay Area Woodturner's Association is a local chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. Our purpose is to provide a meeting place for local turners to share ideas and techniques and to educate the general public regarding the art of turning. The Association meets the second Saturday of each month at the Senior Center in San Ramon. The Association periodically sponsors exhibitions and demonstration by local and internationally known turners.

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## Club Meeting Dates & Topics 2008

Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month unless otherwise noted.

**9:30am to 10:00 time for:**  
coffee, club store, library, view the show table, idea gathering  
**10:00am to 12:30 meeting**  
See [www.bayareawoodturners.org](http://www.bayareawoodturners.org) for more information.

## 2008 Presenters

<b>January 12</b>	Jim Rodgers
<b>February 9</b>	Lathe Tool Sharpening
<b>March 15</b>	David Ellsworth
<b>April 5</b>	Jack DeVos– Australian Turner <a href="http://www.jackdevos.com">www.jackdevos.com</a>
<b>May 17</b>	Graeme Priddle
<b>June</b>	Picnic

**Please check future monthly newsletters to confirm dates and times of each individual meeting.**

### **BAWA Officers Meeting**

Board of directors meetings are held at Denica's Cafe (in the same center as WoodCraft) 8am to 9:30am on the day of the scheduled club meeting. Board meetings are open to all members. Contact Wayne Shipman if you would like to be on the agenda.

## President's Message

Wayne Shipman

The February President's Message is included with our monthly presentation details on the front page. Here are a few pictures from last month's meeting featuring Jim Rodgers courtesy of Fred Deadrick.

Jim Rodgers made an excellent and informative presentation to the club on his "Transitional Vessels" to start off the new BAWA year. Jim showed us the steps involved to turn a vessel from start to finish.



Shown here is Jim turning the exterior shape of both the top and bottom halves of the vessel.



Examples of Jim's finished vessels.

## Save Your Woodcraft Receipts

By special arrangement, the club has secured a way for BAWA to receive a 3% rebate from Woodcraft for each dollar spent in the Dublin store. It is an important source of income to BAWA. Remember to bring your receipts (or copies) and deposit them in the collection box at the next meeting.

## Orange County Fair

*This is information was sent to us from our friends down south...*

The OCWA and Orange County Fair staff have been able to make a number of improvements in the Orange County Fair, Fine Art Woodworking competition starting with the 2008 season. These changes are outlined in a Special Edition of our OCWA newsletter. The link below will access that newsletter. These changes are in two major areas, one, the competition will be in its own building and two, the number of competitive Divisions for both Apprentice and Master Classifications has been increased from three to twelve. Page 12 of the newsletter identifies these Divisions. [http://www.ocwoodworkers.com/Files/Newsletters/OCWANewsletter\\_Fair2008.pdf](http://www.ocwoodworkers.com/Files/Newsletters/OCWANewsletter_Fair2008.pdf)

Please let us know if you have any questions,

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[www.ocwoodworkers.com](http://www.ocwoodworkers.com)  
[www.ocfair.com/ocf/](http://www.ocfair.com/ocf/)

## Wood Raffle

The wood raffle is a great way to help your fellow woodturners obtain wood to turn, and a great way to clean out your shop. Consider bringing in some wood next meeting. The raffle is held following the meeting and is located in the parking lot.

Special thanks to the following people for donating wood at the January meeting: Billy Anderson (7 boxes of Walnut, Maple & Misc wood), Brad Adams (Blackwood Acacia & Spalted Almond), Roz Harper (Ornamental Fruit Tree), Robert Noland--Ipe Cutoffs

Tickets are 1 for a dollar or 6 for five dollars.



## Back to Basics with Jim Rodgers Stones and Grinders

The purpose of sharpening is to improve cut surface quality, speed project completion, and ease amount of “work” the wood turner does.

We need to sharpen when:

- we are pushing harder
- the surface quality deteriorates
- vibration increases
- the cutting sound changes or the tool heats up
- when the tool is new

Here are a few general considerations in using your sharpening system:

- Keep sharpening wheels clean and true
- Use a light touch (sharpening not regrinding)
- Tool should not get hot or discolored
- Use continuous motions for continuous edges
- Use good light and comfortable grinder height
- Use dust mask and eye protection

We prefer slow speed (1750 RPM) grinders because they heat the tools less. Grinders should be equipped with Al<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (aluminum oxide) stones. Aluminum Oxide stones are preferred because they cut high speed steel (HSS) cleanly– they have a friable surface (meaning they chip off) leaving sharp cutting edges. The wheel color is the code to the stones hardness:

- White stones - aluminum Oxide, Al<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>
  - Friable surface – stays sharp
- Blue stones - Cobalt added
  - Harder than white stones
- Pink stones - Chromium oxide added for additional hardness
  - Hardest, requires more pressure to use
  - Loads most easily and required more frequent cleaning
- Wheel grit most preferred are: 60, 80 or 120 grit.

When sharpening, our goal is to have fast, repeatable creation of a non-faceted cutting edge. The use of fixtures improves this process. For more information on fixture setup and the most common angle on tools, check my website for the detailed handout on sharpening ([www.jlrogers.com](http://www.jlrogers.com)).

With a new grinder or with the addition of a replacement wheel, initial setup is very important. Check new wheel for cracks by listening for a “ringing” sound when striking it with a wood tool handle. If the stone is held in the center and a dull “thud” is heard, return the wheel for replacement as it probably has a crack and is in danger of flying apart when brought up to speed.

After mounting the wheel, grinder vibration must be reduced. Rotating the new wheel to counter balance it helps. Truing the wobbly surface also is important. Note: *Always wear a dust mask for these operations*) Rest the diamond truing tool on the grinder’s platform and lightly touch it to the wheel. The high spots will be ground down and the wheel trued to the grinder.

Clean and re-true the surface with a diamond “T”-bar tool frequently. The gray matter that accumulates is metal debris which fouls the wheel; this will heat the tools and reduce the cutting action. The diamond truing tools also can flatten the wheel surface and remove the grooves that sharpening creates.

~Jim Rodgers

## Classified

Have something you want to sell? E-mail [alouie@yahoo.com](mailto:alouie@yahoo.com) if you would like to post an add in the BAWA newsletter. The price is right– FREE!

### Powermatic 3250A

20" 3520A Powermatic lathe for sale. Included is a 18" bed extension and a remote on/ off switch. I Paid \$2,700.00 and am asking \$2,000.00. If anyone is interested I can be reached @ 925-935-7925 or [dempierce@yahoo.com](mailto:dempierce@yahoo.com)

Dennis Pierce

# The Art of Benicia

Works from fellow turners, E Lund and Brad Adams were showcased in the Benicia Open Group show. This show displayed five turned pieces and will continue through February 24.

Elizabeth had three turned items. A pierced work depicting a butterfly trapped in a web captured the viewers attention as the piece was moved, casting intriguing shadows. The following work was also accepted in the 2007 International Juried Exhibition of Woodturning in Portland, OR, with the theme "Turning Green".



*Rising (Again) Through Our Artifacts*

*"The piece merges historic elements of Benicia that were thrown 'away'. The wood is from the old Camphor trees that were removed from the end of 1st Street in 2005. The artifacts are century-old trash that continues to burp back up from the mud at the water's edge at the end of 1st Street". -- E. Lund*

Brad displayed a platter and an elegant urn.



*"The platter is from the crotch of a grafted tree. The upper part of the platter is black walnut, the lower part is English Walnut. It has a few stitches (thanks to the demo by Jerry Kermode). It measures just over 16" in diameter." Brad Adams*



*"The urn is made from Tasmanian Blackwood with an ebonized camphor lid. It is 12 " tall and 7 " in diameter. The lid is attached using a threaded insert." - Brad Adams*



artsbenicia

The Art of Benicia  
991 Tyler Street #114  
Benicia CA

Thursday - Sunday through February 14th  
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Are you presenting? Tell us about shows that showcase members work.

~Bob Ellis

# January Show and Tell



Gene Wagg's Camphor Bowl



Roz Harper turned this spalted Pear(?) bowl at one of the Sawdust sessions



Don Koth showed off his real segmented wooden steering wheel



A cute segmented piggy bank by Lyle Burks



Dan Vanderhouf turned this very nice multi-axis box with finial.



Don White built this beautiful Love Seat from Pear Wood- Oh, the lattice work in the back is turned.



A flat bowl with texturing by Michael Serpa