

# Revolutions

Vol. 5

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NEWSLETTER FOR THE



Lubbock, Texas



Jim Davis 1939 - 2010

## *In Memoriam James Patterson Davis*

West Texas woodturners lament the passing of Jim Davis on January 5, 2010. His skill and abilities were surpassed only by the quality of his teaching and the depth of his friendships.

Our sister club, Comanche Trails, lost a valuable member. Jim has been a frequent demonstrator and had been serving as their webmaster.

Jim also has demonstrated at South Plains Woodturners and at SWAT. His passing diminishes us all.

South Plains Woodturners has made a donation to AAW to benefit youth turning in Jim's name.

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## January Meeting Features Hands-on Demo

Two new concepts were implemented at the January meeting of South Plains Woodturners: hands-on demonstrations and Hold Harmless waivers. The Hold Harmless waivers enable any member to participate, hands on the lathe, regardless of membership in AAW.	2
Special thanks to Bo Bowman, Mike Chambers, David Turner, Jim Bob Burgoon and Ray Hughes for facilitating the meeting.	3
Mike Chambers focused on bowl turning. Jim Bob Burgoon helped others to turn ring holders. Bo Bowman presented the largest and no doubt dullest skew in the West. David Turner helped some participants to create two pens and two weed pots. Before the lunch break, Ray Hughes worked on spindle work, and he helped your editor to chase threads after lunch.	3
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## 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.

Direct any questions or comments about [Revolutions](#) to the editor:

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### January Meeting Continued

Extra special thanks go to Mike Oglesby. He always lets us use his wood shop for our meetings. A fact we should always remember. But the January meeting lasted late into the afternoon. Thanks for the extra duty, Mike.



Members and guests signed Hold Harmless waivers before the hands on meeting. For those of you who did not make the January meeting, please remember to ask for and sign a waiver at the next meeting you can attend. These will be renewable in June when the new club year starts.

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### Acer Deadline

The AAW's 2010 exhibition is "Maple Medley - An Acer Showcase." The deadline for entering this exhibit is February 8, 2010. More info may be found at

[http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2010/Maple/call\\_for\\_entry\\_maple.pdf](http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2010/Maple/call_for_entry_maple.pdf)

Or Enter at the following link

<http://www.woodturner.org/sym/sym2010/Maple/>

## President's Letter

I hope everyone enjoyed the January hands-on meeting. Speaking as an instructor I enjoyed the ability to teach some techniques to small groups and individuals. The February demonstration will be Christmas ornaments.

The March meeting will be a demonstration by John Horn of Fort Worth on "The Taming of the Skew". After the demonstration members will have an opportunity to participate in small group hands-on sessions in bowl turning. There is limited space and a charge for this. The details are outlined further in the newsletter and will be presented at the February meeting.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of our friend and fellow woodturner Jim Davis of Midland. Jim was a very talented individual and always willing to share his woodturning knowledge with others. This past October the AAW selected one of Jim Davis' unique segmented pieces for an exhibit of outstanding regional woodturners to be displayed at the AAW gallery in Minneapolis. Follow this link to see Jim's piece along with a bowl by our own Tom Farrell.

<http://www.galleryofwoodart.org/current.html>

Ray Hughes

## Next Club Meeting

February 6

At Target Sheet Metal  
In the wood shop

South Loop 289 (see map on page 7)

Tom Farrell

Will demonstrate the production of those beautiful Christmas Ornaments He entered into the Christmas Raffle. You will not want to miss this.



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

## Santa Claus is Coming?

Santa is not really coming in March. However, another jolly old elf, John Horn will be our March demonstrator. He will present "Taming the Skew" at our meeting March 6<sup>th</sup> 2010.

If you have ever met or know John, then your will understand my reference to Santa.

John Horn will also present classes in the afternoon of March 6<sup>th</sup> on open vessel turning. That means bows.

The lessons cost \$ 35, a steal of a deal. These lessons will be offered on a first come-first serve basis.

John Horn has demonstrated at SWAT and many clubs in the area.

For more information contact Jim Harris at 797-6377. Pay Charles Swift at our February meeting.

## SWAT Board News

The South West Association of Turners Board of Directors met in Waco on January 23, 2010.

SWAT ended the year with \$61, 495 in assets which will be applied to the coming symposium in August.

Of interest to the South Plains Woodturners Club, raffle ticket sales at Wichita Fall grossed \$ 10, 374. As most of you know our club sold the raffle tickets at the 2009 symposium.

The annual SWAT Directors Meeting installs new officers for the year. Raul Pena assumed the presidency and Delbert Dowdy became Vice President. Bob Matern continued as Secretary/Treasurer. As the bylaws prescribe, Ken Terrell moved into the post of Past President.

The election of officers for 2011 was held after the recommendations of the Nominating Committee, represented by Steve Gottlieb. Delbert Dowdy will move up to be President. Janice Levi was elected Vice President. Len Brissette will become Secretary/Treasurer, and Raul Pena will become Past President. The vote was by acclamation without objection.

At the August SWAT symposium, the lead demonstrators are expected to include Eli Avisera, Clay Foster, Jennifer Shirley, Molly Winston, Mike Jackofsky and Alan Leland.

A number of tools were shared among the member clubs from a donation by Steve LaGrue. Steve apparently has closed a business, and gave the materials to SWAT. The tools received by South Plains Woodturners are expected to be raffled at the February meeting. Some of the tools are most useful to any OneWay lathe owners.

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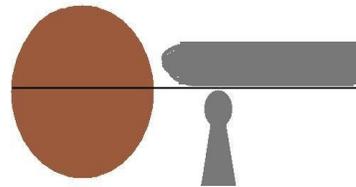
In the last issue you were promised something about C.A.P.P. This is a skeleton on which you may hang the meat of turning fundamentals.

**TECH  
CORNER**



The C refers to the centerline or the axis of the work as seen in the illustration below. When approaching the work piece, visualize the line running through the axis.

Center Line  
In Relation to Toolrest  
and Tool



Much spindle work done with the gouge works well when the bottom of the tool, held horizontally on the tool rest, is even with the imaginary line extending through the axis of the work.

Work with a skew, however, is less likely to catch when the tool rest is raised above the centerline.

Every turner is going to have preferences for where the tool rest is placed for various tools. Some prefer to have the cutting edge even with the centerline. That comes with practice, but every turner should consider the relationship with the centerline.

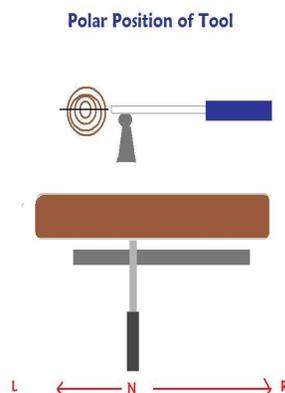
The A is for Axis of tool. The image at the right shows the extremes in the axis of a gouge. All cutting tools, gouges, skews and bedans must be used with consideration to the axis of the tool on the tool rest. Scraping

Axis of Tool



tools, however, are properly used flat on the tool rest or their actions are imprecise yielding irregular results.

Tool handle, thus point, control is considered next. A better image might depict the end of the tool handle in a 360° arc. The first image illustrates the up and down motion of the tool on the lathe, and the lower image shows the left and right swing of the tool on the rest.



(-) ↑  
N ↓  
(+)

Scrapers, for example, are best presented to the work in a negative rake on the point of the tool. This is accomplished, of course, by raising the handle. An exception would be shear scraping with a spear-pointed scraper. For this the handle should be moved down into the positive rake position.

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Tech Corner (Continued from Page 3)

Considering the cutting tools, any handle movement toward negative from a positive position increases the aggressiveness of the cut. It also increases the likelihood of a catch, but moving from neutral to negative is less aggressive.

Most turners present gouges in a neutral position, moving to negative with the flow of the cut. The skews and their cousins, the bedans, are presented in a positive rake or handle position for most cutting. Any other position and the skew or bedan become merely scrapers.

Lateral handle movement with the cutting tools allows the turner to ride the bevel. Thus, a sharper or more steep bevel must be presented at a greater left or right position in order to be in a true cutting position. This is one of the reasons that bowl gouges tend to have flatter or less steep bevels. Skew and bedan handles are moved to the opposite laterally from the direction of the cut. This is necessary because both tools cut with the center of their blades except for very fine adjustments with the points. Any other position will result in a catch.

The polar position of the tool handle remains within the preferences and habits of the turner.

Now the final P. It is Push or Pull cuts.

Push cuts are made by pushing the tool into or against the wood. Properly done, push cuts give the turner a great control of the tool and its action on the work, allowing greater finesse. Gouges, skews, bedans and parting tools may be used to make push cuts.

Additionally, bores and hollowing gouges are pushed into the piece. Their action, a specialized push cut might be called plunging cuts by some. This is an example of how confusing the terminology is even to experienced turners. Some may call certain actions with a skew as plunging cuts. I am going to avoid that at the present, but the action will be discussed later.

### **CAPP**

**Centerline**

**Axis of Tool**

**Pole Position of Tool**

**Push or Pull**

In reality the first three focus around an axis. Just as a turned piece of wood is three-dimensional, woodturning is a three-dimensional process focused around three axis. The process removes wood from the work, leaving a product. Called art by some and craft by others, the technical aspects are the same. Wood is cut, scraped or bored from the piece until the turner is satisfied with the result. All successful products from the lathe have purpose, even if the purpose is to merely please.

SWAT Directors (Continued from Page 3)

In other business, the directors voted to hold off on charging an extra \$ 30 for meal fees at the recommendation of President Pena. He reasoned that with a mere three extra attendees from each club, the ordinary fee will compensate for the meals. The Executive Committee anticipates additional attendance when the symposium is held in Waco.

## **SOUTH PLAINS WOODTURNERS TORNADO GALLERY EXHIBITION March 5-27, 2010**

The South Plains Woodturners will participate in the Tornado Gallery Exhibition. Members may display work and/or offer it for sale. It is expected that at least two demon lathes will be operated by members who are also members of AAW. The Tornado Gallery is located at 1822 Buddy Holly Avenue.

Pieces for either display or sale must be dropped off by March 2, or March 3, 2010. Please provide sale price at the time of the drop off. The club's pedestals will be available shortly after 9:00 am for placing the pieces. Hours for setting up your pieces is from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on both March 2 and 3. There is space available for 50 to 100 pieces.

The kickoff of the exhibition is the "First Friday" March 5<sup>th</sup> City-Wide Art tour 6:00pm-10:00 pm. All artists with pieces in the show should be there if possible for the First Friday. After that we will need volunteers to be present on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings.

The Tornado Gallery will conduct sales, taking 30% for commission and processing. Processing, for example will include the payment and reporting for 0.825% Texas Sales Tax. So basically, if you sell a piece during the exhibition, you will receive 70% of the sale price. So price accordingly.

More information will be made available at the February meeting. This is a great opportunity for our club. The demonstrations will hopefully recruit new members, and members have a venue for selling their work.

Rex Barbour and Bryce Ellis became our newest members at the January meeting. Welcome guys.

Visitors included Michael Scott, Jonathan Vordemark and Collin Weiland. We hope you enjoyed the meeting and we hope to see you back.

# Revolutions

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Map for Meeting Location

