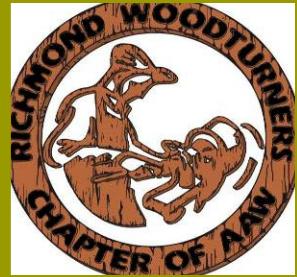




# Richmond Woodturners'

## Newsletter



### Next Meeting:

@Woodcraft, old Circuit City Plaza, 9862 West Broad St (Rt. 250W), Richmond, on the third Thursday of every month, 6:30PM. Refreshments provided.

### **DECEMBER 17**

Editor: Betsy Mack

[bcmack@comcast.net](mailto:bcmack@comcast.net)

### Program Schedule:

Dec: Christmas Party

Jan: TBA

### Challenge Schedule:

Dec: Silent Auction

Jan: TBA

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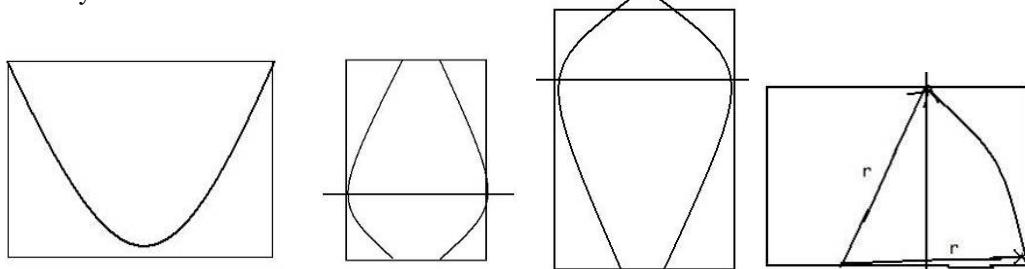
December 2009

[www.richmondwoodturners.org](http://www.richmondwoodturners.org)

### **Design and Plagiarism ...Tom Crabb by Barbara Dill**

We were lucky to have Tom Crabb agree to talk about design. He has been involved in design for many years, has made beautiful turnings and is known at least nationally if not internationally.

Euclid , 300 BC, also known as **Euclid of Alexandria**, was a Greek mathematician and is often referred to as the "Father of Geometry." One of the things he talked about is the extreme to mean ratio  $e=1+\sqrt{5}/2=1.618\dots$  which was known to the Greeks as the "dividing a line in the extreme and mean ratio", also called the Divine Proportion, the Golden Section, Golden Ratio and the Golden Mean. The golden rectangle is thought to be the most aesthetically pleasing proportion. Phi, pronounced "fi" as in fly, is an irrational number with many unusual mathematical properties. This ratio has been used by mankind for centuries.



Centuries later, Leonardo Fibonacci, 1170-1240, introduced Arabic numbers to the western world, replacing the roman numerals. He introduced a simple series of numbers which were later called the Fibonacci numbers. Start with 1 and 1, than add the last two numbers to get the next number. 1,1,2,3,5,8,13,21,... You can pick any of these numbers as W and L and it will be, at least, pleasing. For instance, 2=W and 8=L would look good. This is not a ratio...it is a sequence. This is a tool to be used if something does not look right, not a starting place. For a table leg that is 29" long, this sequence can be used to lay out the detail. For an ornament, the hollow form is the ratio and should fit into the golden rectangle. The finials however can be the numbers in the sequence.....the top, 2 cm, and the bottom, 8 cm or whatever.

The sequence can start with any number...2,2,4,6,10,16,26,.....and the extreme to mean ratio exists, with any 2 numbers that are next to each other: 1 and 2 =1/2 ratio; 2 and 4 =2/4 ratio; 2 and 3 = 2/3; 4 and 6 = 4/6 or 2/3...and on and on. As the numbers increase in the sequence, the results' looks are more pleasing. As Tom said, "It's an eyeball thing". Rudy Osolnik's candlesticks, for instance, have a perfect shape and proportion (and he could make 10 an hour and he never shut the lathe off).

**[Continued page 2]**

**Shows Coming Out Of VA:**

**June 2010**, AAW Symposium,  
Hartford, CT. [www.woodturner.org](http://www.woodturner.org)

**Shows Coming In VA:**

**April 10-17**, Jimmy Clewes

**May 27-29**, David Ellsworth

TOM  
CRABB



**Club dues for 2010  
are now being  
collected**



**[Tom from page 1]** Woodturning has 3 parts, the top, the bottom, and the middle. The middle is the part that should relate to the golden rectangle. There must be harmony between the three parts. The top and bottom are for function and do not need to relate to the ratios or sequences. If the proportions are correct, the top and bottom do not matter. There is a wealth of information on the web about all of these fascinating numbers.

About plagiarism, many folks in the turning arena are greatly concerned about people copying their work. Comments like, "if you flute a bowl you are copying Al Stirt" or "if you make multi axis spindles, you are copying Mark Sfirri". FALSE!!! Nothing new is ever created...it already exists. If you can make a form similar to Jordan's or Osolnik's then good for you. These forms are very difficult to make. If you sell it, just don't put their name on it. If you take a turning of someone else's and measure it and copy it exactly, then that is copying. Plagiarism depends on



intent  
and  
profit.



A few of Tom's  
creations



We need a cabinet made for the DVR and Library collection.. Barbara has posted the library list on the Website .

**Meeting Vibrations**

Jim Marstall has offered to help with the newsletter when help is required.

AAW needs help with their online survey. It's 14 pages long and due by the end of January.

Election time is here. Danny has a full list of volunteers and will soon be asking for our votes.

Ray is working on a club brochure to hand out to his turning class members. He also needs ornaments for the Woodcraft tree.

Nov 2010 VA turning clubs will have their symposium in Fishersville. They need demonstrators. Their attachment is being sent with the newsletter. Treasury has \$9563 at last count.

*"Hi Betsy, My name is Bob Silksen and I have been a member of AAW for about a year and I just happen to notice the link to find local Chapters and have been reading your past newsletters. I am interested in joining your wood turning club! I live in Fredericksburg so it might be a little drive.... ."*

**WOODTURNING ODE**

Under the shade of the cherry tree,  
I sit quietly reading, cat upon knee.  
  
The sun is warm, no cloud in the sky,  
A perfect day in late July.  
  
The hum of the lathe is the only sound,  
Then a burst of song reverberates 'round.  
  
Oh, happy the man by his hobby fulfilled,  
Creating beauty with hands that are skilled.

Idly I ponder on what's being made,  
Please, no more bowls 'cas I'm sorely afraid  
  
We will need an extension to house them all soon.  
Other people build kitchens, I want a bowl room!

All of a sudden, a crisis, oh dear.  
Those words are not fit for a lady to hear!  
  
I guess what has happened, no need to explain,  
That damned skew chisel has slipped once again!  
  
I put on a kettle than went round to the shed.  
"Cup of tea, dear?" was truthfully all that I said  
  
And "Don't worry about it, I'm sure it won't matter,  
Just make it smaller and call it a platter!"

Now I'm in ward 9 with a bowl on my head,  
A doctor and nurse by the side of the bed.  
  
The motto of this story is not very long:  
Just leave him alone when the turning goes wrong!

-Author unknown

My daughter traveled to Australia about 5 years ago and brought me back a small piece of Cornberry wood. When I opened the package just this last week, I found stuffed into the bag a copy of the attached Woodturning Ode. There is no indication of who wrote this little poem, and it is much too late to try to find out who the author is.  
Jim Marstall

**SHOW & TELL**

**Wood used:** American maple, cherry, white oak, Purple Heart, red oak, walnut, popular

**Things:** Platters, stool, candle stand, snowmen, hat, goblets, pens, bowl, bottle stopper, bird house ornaments, hollow form

*See more on the website*



Tom is on the right



Tom Crabb, our **Sawdust Character of the Month**, has had a varied career in visual arts and crafts. He was raised in Springfield, Missouri where he worked with wood and other crafts since he was a child, graduated from Southwest Missouri University with a BA in English and minor in sculpture. He worked as a photojournalist for the Corpus Christi Caller-Times. While there, Tom became interested in boatbuilding. He and his wife, Angela, moved to Mathews County where Tom attended the Chesapeake Academy of Boatbuilding and Design. To insure a steady paycheck while waiting for his boatbuilding business to flourish, Tom began writing how-to articles for publications as diverse as *Creative Crafts* and *Popular Mechanics*. He has since published two books and 50+ articles on woodworking, woodturning and design (3 articles in AAW magazine). Mixed with the writing, Tom spent one summer as resident craftsman at Bush Gardens, Williamsburg. He also teaches woodworking classes for handicapped adults, when requested by the Richmond City Department of Recreation and Parks. Tom also teaches at Visual Arts Center and has demonstrated and conducted workshops at many woodturning clubs and symposia across the U.S. Tom recently retired as a project engineer, (designing and engineering furniture and fixtures) in Richmond. In 1994 Tom won third in the "Of The I Sing" competition at the Wharton Esherick Museum in Philadelphia and was featured in *Woodturning Magazine's* "Focus on Hidden Talent", Nov issue. In 1995 Tom won second in the "Soup to Nuts" competition held by the Wharton Esherick Museum, third in the "Treasured Troves" exhibition, 1996, and Best in Show in the 1999 exhibition of wood utensils. Tom as also been juried into the Three Rivers Arts Festival, the Good Wood Exhibition, Arrowmont Spotlight 98 Exhibition and the Works in Wood Exhibition and Put A Lid On It. Tom has demonstrated at three AAW symposiums and many turning clubs throughout the US. Tom has work on display at Virginia Artisans Center, Waynesboro, Noon Whistle Gallery, Stanardsville and the Rentz Gallery, Richmond. Tom as also been in AAW juried exhibitions: *Put a Lid on It*, *Step Up To The Plate* and *Turning Green*. Tom has also been selected to receive RW's first Honorary Membership Award.

## Officers for 2009

President:	Lee Scarbrough (804-520-1745) <a href="mailto:franlee1@verizon.net">franlee1@verizon.net</a>
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Guy Cox (540-373-3109)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Brian Goulet (804-368-0464)
Treasurer: /Bulk Orders	Matt Baker (804-440-3581)
Secretary/Newsletter	Betsy Mack (804-730-8324) <a href="mailto:bcmack@comcast.net">bcmack@comcast.net</a>
Resource Manager:	Dick Hines (804-966-5204)
Membership:	Danny Luttrell (804-271-4799)
Website	Barbara Dill (804-749-8565)
Past President Board Members:	Mike Lane (804-932-5149) Jim Bumpas (804-526-2873) Dan Luttrell (804-271-4799) David Sterling (804-755-6087)

## Visitors / New Members:

**Honorary Membership:** Tom Crabb

**New Members:** Marlin Fegely Doug Campbell

**1st Time Visitors:** Colin Smith, Robert Gundel, Dana Mains, Justin Newcomer, Michael Pluska, Todd Clodfelter, Charles Pratt

I counter 62 in attendance. Is that a record?

Christmas Party/ Silent Auction is on for the December meeting. We will start eating at 6:30PM. Please bring your favorite guest, food, cash and something for the Auction (tools, wood, etc.). Don't forget the tree ornament for Ray.

**Dues:** \$25 individual, \$35 family & \$15 student. Member applications are available upon request at meetings or via email.

**Library:** Contact the club librarian to borrow tapes and other publications related to woodturning, for only \$2. Loose it and you bought it

**AAW Membership:** Dues are \$48 per year. For this, you receive 6 issues of "The American Woodturner" (a \$30+value), a great resource directory (over 450 pages), a huge annual symposium, personal grant opportunities, third party liability protection, and much more. If you are the least bit serious about woodturning, you can't afford to miss out on all this.

2010: AAW Symposium June in Hartford, Connecticut.

## VA / AAW News

The American Association of Woodturners is conducting a survey of its members, and we need your help. This will be an online (internet based) survey, and we are concerned that some AAW members may not participate due to their lack of access to, or comfort with the internet. We need your help to encourage and facilitate AAW member's participation.

Here are some ideas on how you can help:

- 1) Make an announcement at your next local chapter meeting. The survey may be accessed by going to this web address: <http://tinyurl.com/yhypa8m>  
If possible put a link to the survey address on your website. The survey will be "live" through Jan 31, 2010.
- 2) Offer to help your chapter membership fill out the online survey. Perhaps solicit volunteers to help with the survey taking through an aggressive mentoring program.
- 3) For those who do not have web access or are not comfortable taking an online survey, offer the attached hard-copy (pdf) survey as an alternative. Please understand that tabulating hand-written hard-copy survey data is very time consuming and expensive, so only offer this option as a last resort. And, it would be enormously helpful if chapters would tabulate these hand-written inputs onto the attached Excel spreadsheet. In the event that you do have hand-written, and manually tabulated survey inputs, please email your filled-out spreadsheet to [inquiries@woodturner.org](mailto:inquiries@woodturner.org) no later than January 29, 2010.

Please contact the AAW office in St. Paul if you have any questions.

email [inquiries@woodturner.org](mailto:inquiries@woodturner.org) phone 651-484-9094

Cassandra Speier, AAW Board of Directors

Stamp

Here

## FOR SALE, BUY, or TRADE

Ray Deyo offers a 10% discount on non-power tools and supplies on meeting nights at Woodcraft for members only. Another very good reason to join us every month!

I have some very **like new shop tools for sale.** I bought the Jet mini lathe from your Richmond Woodcraft store last Nov. I have a Drill press floor model, band saw floor model (central mech.) A Jet mini lathe and a Dewalt scroll saw with stand and light. *Would take a \$1000.00 for all.* The band saw has a 3 year replace warranty with it. All these tools were bought Dec of last year. May have 10-15 hours on them. Piece price on the tools:

Band Saw      \$250.00

Scroll Saw      \$450.00

Jet mini lathe    \$400.00 (w/about \$200.00 worth of pen tools, vice pen press, pen kits and more.)

Drill press      \$225.00

Charles E Weindel  
Holmes Town Road  
St Stephens Church, VA 23148  
(804)769-1078

[weindeldesigns@aol.com](mailto:weindeldesigns@aol.com)

**Grizzly 1642 lathe for sale.** It is a knockoff of the Jet, not quite as good in quality, but still quite serviceable. I've had it since the first of January, paid \$1391. Asking \$1150. I have added a convenient on-off switch by the controller, a long power cord, and quicker access to the belts and to lock the headstock. Electronic variable speed in two speed ranges, digital speed readout, a swivel headstock for outboard turning, , spindle lock pin and a forward and reverse switch for outboard bowl turning are just some of the standard features . The bed is precision milled steel for strength and durability and heavy cast iron legs can be easily adapted for adding more mass. If you're looking for a lathe that will handle all of your turning needs, this is the one!

- Spur center , Cup live center , Knockout tool, Indexing pin , Tool rest, 6" Face plate
- Hex wrenches, Power requirement: 220V, single-phase, Swing over bed: 16", between centers: 42"
- 1-1/4" x 8 TPI RH headstock spindle
- Spindle variable speed control with digital readout , MT#2 spindle & tailstock tapers, Approximate shipping weight: 440 lbs.

Call me at 434-823-1882, or  
[www.fredwilliamson.com](http://www.fredwilliamson.com) Email at  
[fred33@embarqmail.com](mailto:fred33@embarqmail.com) if you are interested. The lathe will be available before Christmas. I'm in the Charlottesville / Crozet area.