

Jason Breach Demonstration: May 23

Jason Breach is from Devon, England, and was introduced to the woodturning lathe at the age of twelve. Through schooling and with the support of his parents this interest developed. He attended Buckingham College in High Wycombe, a town famous for Windsor chairs, where he studied Furniture Design and Management, obtaining a BA (Hons) by the age of 21. On returning home to Devon, he worked for a number of years making bespoke kitchens and furniture. As much as he enjoys making furniture, his real enjoyment and enthusiasm has always been working upon the wood lathe, and his flair for making and developing ideas for turned wooden boxes is his main interest.



Developing ideas for turned wooden boxes pushes his creative skills and has led him to create a number of boxes that have won competitions within the UK, including First prize in the Plain Box category of the “Worshipful Company of Turners” competition 2010.

The “Orbital Arc box Series” is his main design focus at present, taking one idea and developing this into a number of different finished boxes. His design boundaries are only limited by the fact that wood as the material is unique, and he feels the natural color and grain pattern should always play a part within this, and not be hidden.

Jason has demonstrated and held classes throughout the UK, Australia Alaska and Europe, and was well received demonstrating at the Utah symposium and classes for Craft Supplies. His enthusiasm for turning is a major creative force in his demonstrations. His full time job in the UK is teaching woodturning at a UK based tool company, and spends much of his time tutoring these hand skills and techniques. This has enabled him to develop his teaching skills, allowing him to explain and educate the learners within classes or at club demonstrations. Jason realizes that there are a lot of hobby turners looking to learn and develop their skills, and a major aim of his demo’s is to try and explain exactly what he is doing and why, so that everyone can understand, from novice to the experienced turner.



(Thanks to Mike Lanahan and the Silicon Valley Woodturners for this write-up.)



BAY AREA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION
LOCAL CHAPTER AAW

Club Meetings

Meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each month unless otherwise noted.

8:30 doors open for setup, use store and library, swap ideas, view displays

9:00—12:30 meeting and demo

Meetings will be held at the PHEC Woodturning Center, 1 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill, CA.

See <http://bayareawoodturners.org/> for directions and club information.

BAWA Officers Meeting -

Officer meetings are open to all members. Contact [John Cobb](#) if you would like to be on the agenda.

2015 Event Schedule

May 23rd	Jason Breach (UK Turner) 9:00-3:30
June 13th	Mark Knize: Large Format Turning
July 11th	Turn for Troops 9:00-12:30
Aug 8th	BBQ
Sept 12th	David Marks
Oct 10th	Andrew Baxter: Xmas Ornaments
Nov 14th	John Beaver 9:00-3:30
Dec 12th	Holiday Party, Auction and Raffle 11:30-3:00

The Bay Area Woodturners 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 usually meets the second Saturday of each month. The Association periodically sponsors exhibitions and demonstrations by local and internationally known turners.

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Guilio Marcolongo



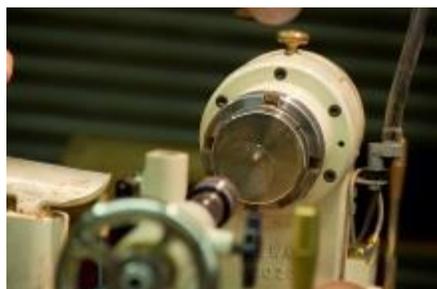
In his visit to BAWA last month, Guilio demonstrated four projects: the “emerging bowl”, “spoon box”, lidded box, and “dog bowl”.

The emerging bowl has a bowl appearing out of a block of wood, with half the bowl outside and half inside the square block. This project made use of glue blocks and jam chucks to mount and remount the piece in order to create the illusion. The key was making a jam chuck that would fit the emerging form securely and the use of hot glue to hold the project in place for hollowing. Guilio also demonstrated how to make and use templates to insure perfectly round spheres.

The “spoon box” is literally a spoon with a lid. To make it more interesting the spoon handle is shaped using an offset chuck. On this project Guilio uses a roughing gouge to create the cylinder and a skew to do the shaping. He also uses a pipe that has been sharpened around the top to perfect the sphere. After parting the work he creates a jam chuck to fit the ball end of the spoon. He uses the offset chuck to give the spoon handle an interesting twist, then carves the handle into a spiral using rasps. Reversing again onto a jam chuck he hollows out the spoon.

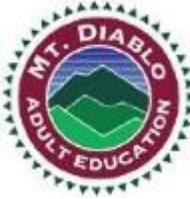
Lidded box: Guilio used a piece of “dead finish” wood from Australia to demonstrate his take on the lidded box. First he turned the blank round and parted off the body of the box, leaving the lid on the lathe. He hollows the center using only a skew as this is the only way to insure a mark isn’t left on the bottom of the project. He uses a texturing tool to put an interesting design on the piece. For the bottom of the box he trues the piece up with the skew and creates the join to fit the lid on. He uses a roughing gouge to shape the body of the box and a skew to hollow out the inside. He mounts scrap wood onto his offset chuck and mounts the box onto a jam chuck. Now he can offset the lid and reform it creating an interesting tilt. He also made a nice off center insert for a piece of shell or other figure.

Guilio’s finish: Sand to 800 grit. Apply a coat of thin CA Glue. Sand with 800 grit again. Apply Triple E finish. Use a toothbrush to clean the wax out of the embellishments. Apply a friction polish as a final coat.



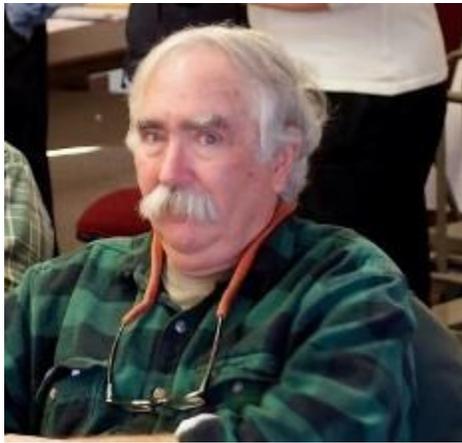
Meeting Notes: April 11, 2015

The wood of the month, presented by our wood maestro Tony, was the Araucaria. Tony brought examples of both the Northfolk Island and Cook Island varieties of these trees that are decidedly not “pines”. The trees are easy to work with. The Northfolk variety has straight growth while the Cook variety tends to be more curved. They are related to the banyan tree and the monkey puzzle tree, both highly praised for their wood.



A new semester starts this week at the Mount Diablo Adult Education Center. Courses include hollow vessels, basket illusion, end grain box, resin class, and how to construct a wedgie sled. The Friday morning drop-in class will continue. For further information and to sign up' go to the web site <https://mdae-mdusd-ca.schoolloop.com/lifelongeducation>

Hugh Buttrum will be hosting a meeting with representatives of all the Northern California AAW clubs to discuss plans to increase communication, coordination and the selection and sharing of demonstrators. Paul Litsky will represent BAWA and report back on outcomes.



Hugh Buttrum



Paul Litsky

“Try different things. Every mistake is an opportunity to make something different. Different items will appeal to new markets and provide the opportunity to create new buyers of your work.”

Newsletter Articles

Got a great idea you want to share with your fellow Woodturners? Whether it is a turning tool, turning technique, finishing process or anything at all related to turning, your BAWA newsletter can always use an article. If you have pictures, all the better. If you need help writing it up or taking pictures, we're here to help. That's what our club is all about - sharing.

Contact:
Louie Silva
Email: newslettereditor@bayareawoodturners.org

President's Ramblings



A week into the latest virus going around, my creativity and energy meter hit an all time low today. The pull to shut my eyes on the couch is far greater than walking into the shop to work on one of 6 projects - let alone the stack of madrone waiting to be roughed out.

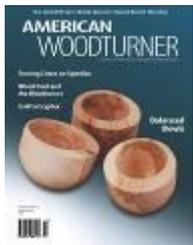
What is totally frustrating about my state of malaise is that I don't get to test out the ideas our latest round of BAWA presenters have offered. I thought Guilio Marcolongo was an excellent demonstrator bringing fresh ideas to making boxes. The concept of making a multi axis box is pretty creative and I thought his application greatly enhanced the design of his pieces. His use of shells as inlay was interesting as well, a good reminder that we don't have to just inlay wood. I would love to see BAWA members push the envelope on inlay material, my guess there are some very cool products to discover. Pen makers have been very creative in this area, are there some ideas to extrapolate into boxes, bowls and hollow forms?

Speaking of creativity, our next presenter is Jason Breach from the UK who is also an incredibly innovative turner. He brings a fantastic sense of design and form to woodturning that makes him a leader in the next generation of internationally acclaimed woodturners. If you google his name or go to his website: <http://www.jasonbreach.co.uk> you will see some pretty remarkable work. His demonstration will be a full day on Saturday May 23 - doors open at 8:30 and we will wrap up around 3:30. Don't forget to bring a piece or two for the wood raffle.

Keep Turning
John Cobb
President
Bay Area Woodturners Association

Mark Knize, Our June Presenter

Club member Mark Knize will show and talk about a variety of spindle-turned, faceplate-turned and segmented projects and tell why and how he made them. Projects include: Rocks, a Mondrian-style segmented wall piece, Plant stands from telephone poles as well as a 28" Diameter segmented sphere,



Mark has been turning since 1993. He has used a Stubby lathe since 1999. Mark creates his sculptures using a variety of materials including metal, clay and concrete. But wood is his favorite medium. He has written articles published in American Woodturner.



Trees of the Bay Area #12

Platanus X hispanica (X acerifolia)

By Tony Wolcott

Trees always have an interesting history. This is certainly the case for the London plane tree. In fact the Latin name for this tree has recently changed from *Platanus X acerifolia* to *Platanus X hispanica*. A published article with the new name was discovered and verified to pre-date other articles. The common name is problematic which should come as no surprise. There is a reason these names are called 'common'. A British botanist discovered this fertile hybrid between *Platanus orientalis* (Oriental plane) and *Platanus occidentalis* (American sycamore). The only connection to London was that the botanist lived there. This tree is a hybrid that commonly naturalizes in nature. There is a wide variance of types and wood can be dark pink to creamy white. Please avoid calling this most common street tree 'sycamore'. That name is rightfully reserved for the California sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*). There is some confusion on the origin of this hybrid, but rest assured the numbers of London plane trees outnumbers any other city street tree.



Identification is easy. If you come to a tree, look up and start coughing, then it is a London plane tree. Near the coast they are riddled with first anthracnose and then powdery mildew. The leaves are 'maple' like, but furry and leathery. The fruit is a round furry ball, often flattened on the ground. The bark is very distinct – mottled almost like a quilt between cream color and brown. Burl or failed branches give it a gnarled wart like appearance popular in children's stories. This tree gets quite large often arching over entire streets. Unfortunately some like to pollard the tree, cutting back to hardened off knuckles every spring. This practice in the name of uniformity gives the London plane a decapitated look.

One favorable aspect of *Platanus X hispanica* is the tree's toughness. It can handle smog, any soil, lack of water, too much water. It is a very tough tree often root pruned in excess without too much tree dieback. Hence, this tree is popular with the architects who unfortunately don't have to prune it. The further away you are from the coast the better this tree looks. More than a few streets in Berkeley are lined with London plane trees.

Turning this wood is a great pleasure, like going through pudding. As is the case with maples and maple like trees such as the London Plane, the grain and the growth rings are almost invisible so the wood is quite homogenous and consistent, not spectacular. Early growth and late growth each year is diffuse porous so that there is little to no distinction on the growth rings. Tools are able to put a fine finish almost without sandpaper. Embellishments such as staining, texturizing even painting are all possible. This wood is quite nice as filler wood, especially for segmented work, similar to *Acer negundo* or Box elder.



April Show and Tell



Mark Knize-Candle Holder



Hugh Bevan-Thomas-Wine Cooler



Brad Adams-Madrone
Burl Bowl



Terry Heart-Small Dish



Harry Levin-Natural
Edge Bowl



Ron Geren-Candle
Holder



(Continued on following page...)

More April Show and Tell



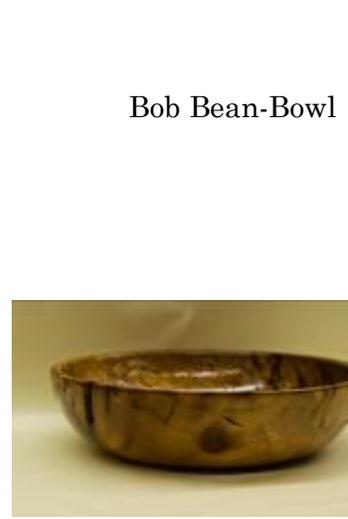
Donna Lauzon-Goblets



Gary Bingham-Large Bowl



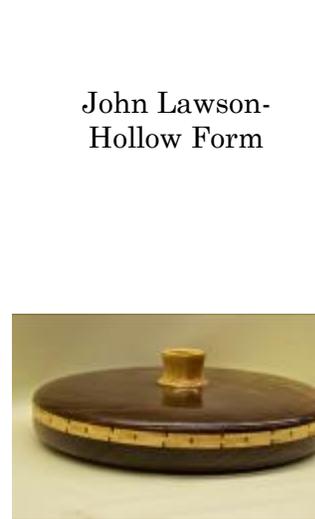
Don Gouviea-Compound
Miter Bowl



Bob Bean-Bowl



Dave Plemons-
Norfolk Island Pine
Trio



John Lawson-
Hollow Form

