

# Woodturners of North Texas Newsletter

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October 2012

# October Demonstration

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**Jim Tanksley**



## Topic – Large Bowls

Jim Tanksley's woodturning experience began as many young teens did back in 1969, in junior high school woodshop class. Using a piece of laminated maple and mahogany wood he turned a lamp, Jim will tell you he couldn't remember the tools he used but remembers it was fun and his mom loved the lamp. He didn't dabble with woodturning again until 1995. He had four 6" x 6" by 30" kiln dried white oak pieces that needed to be turned into table legs. He purchased a cheap lathe from Big Lots and burned out several of them trying to turn the legs. Finally he upgraded and purchased a lathe from a garage sale made by Sears to finish the project. Then in 2006 Jim met Mike Jones at work and became interested in woodturning again after see a wood pen Mike had turned. After getting the specifics of how and what to buy, Jim made his first visit to Rockler and Woodcraft. Mandrel and pen kit in hand Jim realized his Sears lathe did not have a number 2 Morse taper so he would have to purchase another lathe. With his first Jet mini, he was on his way to making pen after pen. It was then Jim started attending the woodturning meetings in Fort Worth. Learning and discovering new techniques, Jim realized there was more to woodturning than just pens. He purchased a used Nova 3000 lathe with capacity for turning 16" bowls. In the beginning he did everything wrong and scrapped over 50% of the bowls. However Jim didn't get discouraged, his family loved everything he was turning out, and he was inspired to continue turning. Hoping to improve his skill he decided to by a bigger lathe (Powermatic 3520B), thinking a bigger lathe would allow him to turn better (ha-ha!). Overtime his success rate and quality of turnings improved with practice, attendance at the woodturning meetings, and taking lessons. The club offers hands on classes with professional woodturners each year and Jim started taking advantage of these sessions. Then in 2008 Jim took a 2-day course with Stuart Batty and the light came on. He will tell you his turnings improved at least by 50% and he became comfortable sharpening his own tools after the training. He was hooked!

For the upcoming WNTX club meeting, Jim will be demonstrating different stages of turning a large bowl. In addition, he will give you tips and tricks for turning large bowls. He prefers to use green wood, with Mesquite being his favorite. On display will be some of the large bowls Jim has turned in the past with many different woods (Mesquite, Silver Maple, Magnolia, Oak, Pecan, Black Walnut, and Hackberry.)





# Empty Bowls

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6346 Hart Street Fort Worth Texas 76112

## EARLY WARNING!!

The Eleventh Annual Empty Bowls Event is coming:

**Thursday, March 28**, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
West Room Amon G. Carter Exhibit Hall  
Will Rogers Memorial Center  
3401 West Lancaster, Fort Worth 76107

We are grateful for the support of area potters, wood turners, glass artists, area students and others who have helped make the event so successful. Last year we raised \$250,000 for the Tarrant Area Food Bank which in turn provided 1,250,000 meals for those in need in their 13-county service area.

We thank you for your generosity in the past and hope you will support this year's EMPTY BOWLS event with your wonderful work. With the holidays quickly approaching we wanted to give you time to plan. If you can bring your donated bowls to the TAFB by Wednesday, March 20, 2013 that will give us time to prepare. If you need your pieces picked up, contact Francie Cooper at [francie.cooper@tafb.org](mailto:francie.cooper@tafb.org) or 817-332-9177 x 110.

Also, if you or anyone you know would like to donate something for the silent auction (this does not have to be a bowl) we will happily accept. These items need to be at TAFB by March 1, 2013. Again, contact Francie Cooper at the email or phone number above to make arrangements for the donation.

All who donate work are entitled to have promotional material stuffed in the goodie bags given out at the event. If you wish to take part, have 2000 pieces of advertising delivered to Francie Cooper at the Food Bank by March 1, 2013.

If you would like to volunteer to work at the event, please send your contact information to Janet Rodriguez at [hartst@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hartst@sbcglobal.net) and be sure to put volunteer EB in the subject line.

Thank you for your support of those in need in our community!

Janet Rodriguez, Artist Chair  
Empty Bowls 2013  
Hart Street Pottery  
817.429.7222

# Bring Back Winners

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Bring back winners for September 27, 2012

Winner                      item                                      Donor

|                |                             |                  |
|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Debbie Hunt    | Pen Blank                   | Bob Wiggins      |
| Bob Wiggins    | Bowl                        | John Lauderbaugh |
| Jimmie Gill    | Bowl                        | Gary Adam        |
| Fred Denke     | Bottle Stopper and Kit      | Chas Thornhill   |
| Bobby Bartlett | Cedar Bowl Blank            | Bobby Hurt       |
| Larry Sweeny   | Turning Blank               | Woodworld        |
| Chas Thornhill | Turning Blank               | Woodworld        |
| Larry Roberts  | Pen Blank                   | Larry Sweeny     |
| Larry Sweeny   | \$25 Gift Card to Woodworld | Woodworld        |
| Dave Marshall  | Turning Block               | Jim Humphrey     |
| Dewayne Hines  | Pencil Pot                  | Bob Wiggins      |
| Chris Hurt     | Portfolio                   | Matt Rabe        |
| Rick Gauthier  | Turning Blank               | Ron Taylor       |

# Classified Ads

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## WANTED

Looking for a mini-lathe. If you have one for sale, contact Randall Oliver at (972)962-4847.

# HALLOWEEN CANDY

PLEASE BRING A LARGE BAG OR TWO OF WRAPPED HALLOWEEN CANDY TO BE DONATED TO THE R. D. EVANS COMMUNITY CENTER TO BE HANDED OUT TO CHILDREN FOR HALLOWEEN.



Editor's Note:

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My computer is in the shop. I expect to have it back in time for November's newsletter.