



# Shavings



Hill Country Turners  
Monthly Newsletter

**AS THE HILL COUNTRY TURNS**

Volume # 12

Issue # 12

## HCT Christmas Party

December 13, 2007 at the Inn of the Hills. This is a fun meeting; the social event of the year, if you haven't signed up, do so now. Call Barbie, the deadline is December 10.

Bring toys for the kids on Santa's DO NOT CALL ON LIST.

Conventional wisdom indicates Quantity over quality.

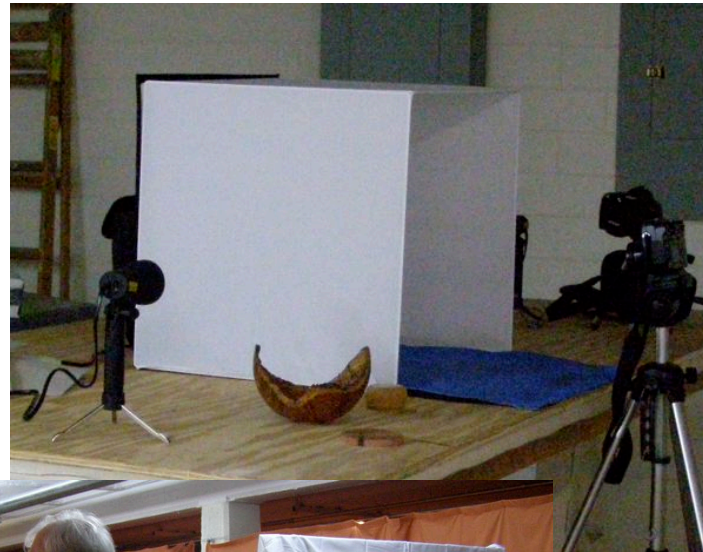
This party and meeting is our opportunity to exchange gifts of our creations with one another. The gifts being something out of our shop. Among us all skill levels exist, and no one should let that be a deterrent. Do your best and not the usual bring back stuff, remember that only those who bring a piece, participate in the drawing conducted by Nicholas.

**PARTY STARTS AT THE USUAL MEETING TIME OF 6:30 WITH CHOW AT 7:30**

## NOVEMBER DEMONSTRATION

Meeting was all about a demonstration conducted by two members of the Hill Country Camera Club, to wit Max Potter and S. J Derby. Setup started about 5:30 an hour before our usual meeting time. With the help of HCT members, three photo setups were constructed, showcasing two different approaches to lighting the

subject. Two setups were light boxes, large and small, using exterior lights diffusing through translucent material. A third was lights reflecting from silver coated umbrellas, a typical portrait setup, which works well for large pieces. Max and SJ explained the different effects obtained varying the angle



and distance of the light sources which affect the highlights and shadows that make or break the final photo.

HCT members, who brought cameras photographed various turnings, photographs were later critiqued at the end of the demo using a computer and a digital projector. During this session Max displayed some of his photos and pointed out salient features comprising a good photo, emphasizing that one should not expect photo editing programs to make a lousy photo good, it may improve it a bit. Where a photo editor is best is making a really good photo approach perfection. The critique of member photos was amusing and informative. This demo gives many of us a starting point in photographing our work and doing so with a digital format. Not easy, according to Max, photos of shiny objects is one of the more difficult undertakings in photography



## Review of instructional points:

With a digital camera any light source will do, fluorescent, incandescent, halogen, photo lights or any combination thereof, set the white balance on the camera and most generally all will be well. The tricky part is avoiding glare on shiny objects. This can be accomplished with various



diffusers, reflectors, and bounce. Advice was to play with the lighting and shoot many pictures. With digital the only cost is batteries if your camera is not rechargeable.



Use a tripod, the subject isn't going to move so the camera shouldn't, camera shake fuzzes the pictures and there is no cure. Cameras with long telephoto lenses are especially susceptible, even

though some come with shake compensation there is no reason to depend on it when the subject is stationary.

Shoot aperture priority using the smallest available, usually f 8 on a digital camera.( large f number equals small hole ) this is the best shot at keeping the entire object in focus. This is especially important since the camera is close to the subject which tends to decrease the depth of field. Naturally, the shutter speed will be slow but it doesn't matter using a tripod.

ISO on a digital roughly approximates film speed. Like film cameras the slowest film speed produces the best pictures. Shooting still objects, use the smallest number available on the camera usually about 50.

## SHOW AND TELL

There were some nice turnings brought for the photo session but no official show and tell. Some of my best are not turnings and too heavy to bring to a meeting, I will take this opportunity to show one I think is special. This hall table was created for a customer at the UT Health Science Center. Top is from a burl tree and the legs were carved from parts of a mistletoe burl.





## MISSIVES FROM ALIEN SOURCES

FROM AAW:

Kip Christensen has informed the AAW that the Utah Symposium will no longer be held at Brigham Young University. In 2008 the Utah Symposium will be held at the Utah Valley State College, which is close to BYU, on May 22 – 24, 2008.

This change in dates is important to the entire woodturning community because the dates no longer conflict with the AAW Richmond Symposium on June 20 – 22 2008. Attendees and demonstrators are now free to attend both Symposia instead of having to choose between one and the other.

For some reason Kip will not be able to get the word out very soon, so the AAW wishes to do so via this mass e-mail to the Chapter Presidents. Please inform your members of this change in place and dates. Angelo lafrate can be reached at [angelo@woodturner.org](mailto:angelo@woodturner.org)

[FROM ANNE BRADLEY:](#)

Just a friendly reminder about our show with the Hill Country Turners plus invited guests. Please remember to have your completed application, along with photos, to me by December 28th. The date will approach quickly and I personally look forward to it.

Rex White has graciously agreed to help me jury in your work. I am very excited to have his expertise involved with the show. Many of you know Rex from his submissions over the years to the Texas Furniture Makers Show plus, as a judge for this year's show. ED NOTE: If anyone wants an application contact me or Holton.

FROM WOODTURNING DESIGN MAGAZINE

We are pleased to present you and your club members with an exclusive offer from Woodturning Design magazine for back-issue purchases. If any of your club members have missed certain issues of our publication, this is a good opportunity to get them at very low prices, and with quick shipping.

This offer is for **BULK ORDERS ONLY**. Therefore, we ask that one representative from your woodturning club handles your club's order.

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### **“THE BIG CHIPS” of KTC**

*Hill country turners is a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners dedicated to providing education, information and a place to meet and discuss woodworking and woodturning.*

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