FROM THE DIRECTOR

One thing I love about the school is the way it has become so much more than I could ever have imagined at the start. There are prerequisites to sound growth, of course—staying focused on our mission, keeping the excellence of participants’ educational experiences as our first priority, and operating on a sound financial basis. Fortunately, with the guidance of an experienced Board of Directors, the Center has managed all of these. So it is with more pleasure than surprise that I report that 2007 has been another stellar year. Among other measures, enrollment scaled new heights, the Messler Gallery drew record attendance, and the Studio Fellowship program attracted ever-stronger applications.

For all its success, the Center is still a work in progress. Good ideas, and the willingness to implement them, continue to come from faculty, alumni, friends, and the Board of Directors. For example, as reported in this newsletter, instructor Teri Masaschi has offered to expand her course offerings at the Center in order to address an insufficiency of finishing instruction nationwide. And alumnus Jerry Axelson and his wife, Nancy Wilson, have expanded the scholarship program they initiated last year.

Likewise, our Board of Directors has completed a formal planning study and committed to the next major phase of the school’s advancement. This will consist of three initiatives that directly address the prerequisites for sustainable, sound growth mentioned above. Specifically, these initiatives will ensure the continuing excellence of our faculty through more equitable compensation, bolster the creative ferment on campus with a Visiting Artists program, and extend the school’s mission to a broader audience through needs-based scholarships. More about this in upcoming newsletters, as you may imagine!

One of the pleasures of a small, not-for-profit school such as the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship is that it is an organic community where one person’s contribution can have a significant impact on the excellence of the whole. As always, we welcome your ideas, your participation, and your support!

— Peter Korn

NINE-MONTH COMPREHENSIVE BEGINS

Our 4th Nine-month Comprehensive began on September 10. Lead Instructor David Upfill-Brown is being joined for the eight project segments by Visiting Instructors Peter Turner (South Portland, Maine), Aled Lewis (Oxford, England), Austin Matheson (Rockport, Maine), Darryl Keil (Brunswick, Maine), Michael Puryear (Shokan, New York), Pete Schlebecker (Camden, Maine), Tim Rousseau (Appleton, Maine), and Tom Kealy (Somerset, England.)

Additional faculty include furniture historian Ed Churchill (Augusta, Maine), artist Linden Frederick (Belfast, Maine), marquetarian Jim Macdonald (Burnham, Maine), woodturner Stephen Gleasner (Appleton, Maine), and carver Valdemar Skov (Waldoboro, Maine). Participants are:

Brycen Buum, 18
Fort Lupton, Colorado
Farmer
Goal: To own a successful hands-on business designing and building furniture

Cale Caboth, 22
Mt. Pleasant, Iowa
College student
Goal: To become a studio furniture maker

Patrick Downes, 38
Anytown, Vermont
Writer
Goal: To be an independent furniture maker and writer

Mark Foehl, 47
Wyomissing, Pennsylvania
Electrician
Goal: To apprentice for a furniture maker and possibly to have his own furniture/cabinet shop

Continued on page 3
Course descriptions will be posted to www.woodschool.org by mid-December. Alumni should receive the printed course catalog by the end of the year. Registration begins on January 2, 2008.

WORKSHOPS

June 2 – 13
BASIC WOODWORKING
Peter Korn
(Also June 30 – July 11, July 28 – August 8,
August 25 – September 5, October 6 – 17)

June 2 – 6
INTRODUCTION TO TURNING
Stephen Gleasner

June 9 – 13
TURNING BOWLS & PLATTERS
Alan Stirt

June 16 – 27
INTERMEDIATE FURNITURE MAKING
Kevin Rodel

June 16 – 20
TWIG TABLES
Clifton Monteith

June 23 – 27
VENEREEING
Darryl Keil

June 30 – July 4
MARQUETRY
Julie Godfrey

July 7 – 11
WOODTURNING FOR BEGINNERS
Nick Cook

July 14 – 18
TURNED AND CARVED VESSELS
John Jordan

July 14 – 25
SCULPTURAL FURNITURE
Peter Fleming & Peter Pierobon

July 21 – 25
RELIEF CARVING
Chris Pye

July 28 – Aug. 8
INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED CARVING
Chris Pye

August 11 – 22
CHAIR MAKING
Brian Boggs

August 11 – 22
TURNING A TO Z
Beth Ireland

August 11 – 22
RESTORATION AND REPAIR
Teri Masaschi

Aug. 25 – Sept. 5
FINISHING A TO Z
Teri Masaschi

September 8 – 12
HAND-APPLIED FINISHES
Teri Masaschi

September 8 – 19
TABLES, NO RESERVATIONS
Garrett Hack

September 8 – 19
INTERMEDIATE TURNING
Todd Hoyer & Hayley Smith

Sept. 22 – Oct. 3
THINKING INSIDE THE BOX
Peter Lloyd & Tim Rousseau

Sept. 22 – 26
IDEAS GROWN IN NATURE
Jon Brooks

Sept. 29 – Oct. 3
THE UNPLUGGED WOODSHOP
Tom Caspar

October 6 – 10
TURNED BOXES FOR BEGINNERS
Matthew Hill

October 13 – 17
INTERMEDIATE BOX TURNING
Bonnie Klein

TWO-WEEK INTENSIVES
February 18 – May 9, 2008
June 9 – August 29, 2008
October 27, 2008 – January 23, 2009

NINE-MONTH COMPREHENSIVE
September 8, 2008 – May 29, 2009

2007 CROQUET WINNERS

June 7        Austin Bradley & Jesse Shaw
June 14       Matthew Hill & Jesse Shaw
June 28       Zach Modglin & Rhonda Chan
July 6        Ken Beck & Eric Hurt
July 13       Laura Mays & Monica Raymond
July 27       Zach Modglin & Greg Yachuk
August 2      Chris & Ginny Clougherty
August 9      Gillian Little & Andrew Gorton
August 16     Michelle Dee & Peter Korn
August 23     Peter Korn
August 30     Peter Korn
September 6   Jaye Landon

Student Monica Raymond and instructor Laura Mays enjoy a hard-won victory on the croquet pitch.
NEW SCHOLARSHIPS

Three scholarship opportunities will be available for our 2008 Workshops—two through the generosity of alumnus Jerry Axelson and his wife, Nancy Wilson, and one through the Furniture Society in partnership with Powermatic.

Last year, Jerry and Nancy funded a full scholarship that allowed a promising student from the Maine Technical College system to attend a two-week workshop, all expenses paid. This year they are doubling their gift so that two students may receive scholarships. “We were so pleased with last year’s recipient and the great learning experience he had,” says Jerry. Recipients of Axelson scholarships are selected by faculty at designated technical schools and colleges.

The third scholarship opportunity is being made available through the Furniture Society in partnership with Powermatic. Underwritten by Powermatic, it will cover the costs of tuition for a two-week workshop, housing, and meals, and include a stipend for travel. Deadline for applications is February 1, 2008. To apply, students must be currently enrolled in a full-time educational program or in an apprenticeship program of six months or longer. Full details are available online at www.furnituresociety.org. The scholarship selection panel will include representatives from Powermatic, The Furniture Society and an academic institution.

The Furniture Society is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to advance the art of furniture making by inspiring creativity, promoting excellence, and fostering an understanding of this art and its place in society. Powermatic has manufactured high performance, durable woodworking machinery for over 85 years.
A letter box by Ellen Benkin (Los Angeles, California) won an award at the Cerritos Community College woodworking show in May. ■ Aaron Fedarko (Camden, Maine), Kevin Gill (Camden, Maine), TJ Mifflin (South Portland, Maine), and Dick Kelly have been juried into Maine Wood 2008, which opens at the Messler Gallery in November. ■ Dick Kelly (Spruce Head, Maine) won the quarterly Forum Competition of the American Association of Woodturners. ■ Dick Kelly (Camden, Maine), Kevin Gill (Camden, Maine), and Tom Hucker at the Center in May.

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FINISHING JUST STARTING
Finishing expert and author Teri Masaschi will expand her popular course offerings at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship for 2008. For the past several years, Teri’s two-week FINISHING course has been the first workshop to reach full enrollment. Next summer, in addition to Finishing, she will also offer a two-week RESTORATION AND REPAIR course and a one-week class called HAND APPLIED FINISHES.

Looking ahead, the Center and Teri are exploring a more extensive relationship through which Teri will offer an exclusive, summer-long series of finishing courses. Last Spring’s newsletter announced the purchase of an adjacent parcel of land where we plan to construct a dedicated finishing facility, a small metalworking shop, and a garage in about two years. That new finishing classroom will make it possible for Teri’s teaching role at the Center to expand significantly.

“No other woodworking school offers a coherent finishing program and there’s a tremendous need for it,” says Teri. “I’m delighted the Center is stepping up to the plate to create a comprehensive program that will teach professional finishing skills in a manageable workshop format.”

2006–2007 COMPREHENSIVE
What our most recent Nine-month Comprehensive graduates are up to

Ben Bogie is self-employed doing carpentry and cabinetry in New Milford, Connecticut. ■ Ben Branscom is Customer Service Manager at Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers in Auburn, Maine. ■ Jordan Charney is a cabinetmaker at Granite Bay Woodworks in Guilford, Connecticut. ■ Aaron Fedarko is a Studio Fellow at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship. ■ Dan Griggs is working as a finish carpenter and cabinetmaker for Griggs & Co. in Point Harbor, North Carolina. ■ Cody Grimes is doing architectural millwork at Lefever Woodworking in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania and renovating a house in nearby Carlisle. ■ Silas Holmes is doing restoration timber framing in Greenfield, New Hampshire and making furniture in his spare time. ■ After a summer of recreation and reflection, Ted Hukill is off to North Carolina to find a job as an apprentice in a fine furniture shop. ■ Having completed a three-month Studio Fellowship at the center, Liz Phillips has just moved to Boston, where she is looking for a woodworking job. ■ Ben Richmond is working at TIM FINE Woodworking in Richfield, Maine. ■ Jack Rodie is doing high-end finish work for Maine Coast Construction on a major project in Kittery, Maine. He is working on furniture commissions in his spare time and has a piece on display at the Carver Hill Gallery in Rockport. ■ Liz Vera was at the Center over the summer as a Studio Fellow and workshop participant, and is deciding at this moment what comes next. ■ Ric Washburn is remodeling a 32' x 45' horse barn into a workshop at his new home in Appleton, Maine and pursuing a career as a self-employed furniture maker. He will be a Studio Fellow at the Center for January and February.
BRIAN BOGGS (Berea, Kentucky) will be traveling to central Peru’s Palcazu Valley next year on behalf of Greenwood and a Peruvian organization called Pats Peru (www.patsperu.org) to work with the Yanesha tribe on a sustainable development project. ■ CHRISTIAN BURCHARD (Ashland, Oregon), BETTY SCARPINO (Indianapolis, Indiana), ALAN STIRT (Enosburg Falls, Vermont), and JACQUES VESERY (Damariscotta, Maine) were represented in Turned and Sculpted Wood 2007 at the Del Mano Gallery in Los Angeles, July 28 – August 25. ■ CHRISTIAN BURCHARD, JOHN JORDAN (Antioch, Tennessee), BETTY SCARPINO, and ALAN STIRT are among 29 makers represented in the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship’s traveling exhibition Far From the Tree. ■ Last June, TIM COLEMAN (Shelburne, Massachusetts) was selected as a finalist in the Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Grants Program. There is an article about his work in the current issue of New England Crafts Connoisseur. ■ A lovely chair by ADRIAN FERRAZZUTTI (Guelpih, Ontario) is featured on the back cover of the December 2007 issue of Fine Woodworking. ■ STEPHEN GLEASNER (Appleton, Maine) took second place in Dirt Rag magazine’s 2007 literature contest with an essay titled “Metric Bubba,” beating out more than 200 other entrants to win a Gary Fisher X-Caliber mountain bike. ■ MIGUEL GOMEZ-IBANEZ (Weston, Massachusetts) will have a piece of furniture in the Fuller Craft Museum Members’ Exhibition from November 17, 2007 to March 3, 2008. ■ “Using Handscrews” by GARETT HACK (Thetford Center, Vermont) appears in the December 2007 issue of Fine Woodworking. ■ An article on “Bending Solid Wood” by DAVID HAIG (Nelson, New Zealand) appeared in a recent issue of Australian Wood magazine. ■ This September, DAVID KLENK (Gray, Maine) transformed the study of the Oakley Estate in Falmouth Maine for the Portland Symphony Orchestra’s Designers Show House event. ■ SILAS KOPF (Northampton, Massachusetts) collaborated with Steinway & Sons to create a new Steinway Model D Art Case Concert Grand Piano that was auctioned by Christie’s on October 4 to benefit the Walden Woods Project. An exhibition of Silas’ work will be on view at Gallery Henoch in New York from November 15- December 8. ■ Work by ANDREW LAWTON (Grindelford, England) is included in Betty Norbury’s new book, Bespoke. This summer, Andrew won second prize in the Ryobi Woodworker of the Year competition for a chest of drawers of English walnut & sycamore. ■ JIM MACDONALD (Burnham, Maine) exhibited his marquetry at the New England Guitar Festival in Boston. ■ TERI MASASCHI (Tijeras, New Mexico) wrote “10 Best Fixes for Finishing Mistakes” for the August 2007 issue of Fine Woodworking. ■ In August, JOHN McALEVEY (Warren, Maine) was “Artist of the Month” at Exeter Fine Crafts in Exeter, New Hampshire, where he exhibited four pieces of furniture and turned bowls. John also exhibited in Living with Crafts at the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen’s Annual Sunapee Fair. The Peabody Essex Museum has purchased CLIPTON MONTIETH’S (Lake Ann, Michigan) Alter Altar Table for its permanent collection. The table was originally made for the museum’s Inspired by China show. ■ PETER PIERBON (North Vancouver, British Columbia) has been awarded a Canada Council grant for research and study in Europe and will be leaving in early December for the better part of a year. ■ BRIAN REID (Rockland, Maine) has been juried into the American Craft Council show in Baltimore for this coming February. In addition he has been juried into Maine Wood 2008, which opens at our Messler December 29th. Other faculty juried into Maine Wood 2008 are WAYNE HALL (Bucksport, Maine), JULIE MORRINGELLO (Stonington, Maine), and PETER TURNER (South Portland, Maine). ■ The Newark Museum recently purchased two pieces by MICHAEL PURYEAR (Shokan, New York) for its permanent collection. Also, Michael has been commissioned to build a desk for the President of SUNY-Purchase College. ■ CHRIS PEE (Hereford, England) has recently produced three instructional DVDs that are available through his web site. ■ KEVIN ROEDE (Brunswick, Maine) has moved his workshop to Fort Andross in Brunswick. His work will be featured on the back page of the February issue of Fine Woodworking. ■ BETTY SCARPINO’s sculpture, “Inner Wisdom” won the Outstanding Sculpture award at the 83rd Annual Hoosier Salon Exhibit at the Indiana State Museum in August. ■ PETE SCHLEBECKER (Camden, Maine) participated in the Center for Maine Contemporary Art’s annual craft show, Work of the Hand in October. An article by Pete called “Building a Rock-Solid Router Table” will appear soon in Fine Woodworking. ■ STEVE SKONIECZNY (Seattle, Washington) recently participated in a group show called “Pattern” at The Northwest Gallery of Fine Woodworking in Seattle. ■ PETER TURNER (South Portland, Maine) is currently writing an article for Fine Woodworking on “Solid Wood Shelves for Tables.” He will be participating in the Society for East End Arts/Maine College of Art Holiday Sale from Nov. 3 through Dec. 2 at the East End Community School in Portland. ■ DAVID UPHILL-BROWN (Rockport, Maine) participated in the New Hampshire Furniture Makers annual auction extravaganza on October 21, along with TED BLACHLY (Warner, New Hampshire), JON BROOKS (New Boston, New Hampshire), TIM COLEMAN, GARETT HACK, BRIAN REID, and BILL THOMAS (Rindge, New Hampshire). ■ A turned and carved “cracked egg” by JACQUES VESERY (Damariscotta, Maine) was featured on back cover of the August 2007 issue of Fine Woodworking. ■ GEOFFREY WARNER (Stonington, Maine) will be launching the Stonington Furniture Collection in late Spring 2008. The collection will be available at four galleries throughout the state, as well as at Warner’s Stonington studio. ■ A desk by TORY WINTERINGHAM (King’s Lynn, England) has been awarded a Craft Guild Mark Certificate from the Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers. ■ STEWART WURTZ (Seattle, Washington) is currently participating in Pattern at the Northwest Fine Woodworking Gallery. His dining table was featured on the cover of the October 7 edition of the Seattle Times’ Pacific NW Magazine.
CURRENTLY SHOWING

FAR FROM THE TREE
September 14, 2007 – November 22, 2007

Far From The Tree presents an insider's history of woodturning's emergence as a vibrant artistic form over the past sixty years.

The show’s curators are Jacques Vesery, from Damariscotta, Maine, and Kevin Wallace, from Los Angeles, California. Vesery is a leading wood artist with an international reputation. Wallace is an independent curator, author, and Director of the Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts in Ojai, California. Together, they take a fresh look at the field’s roots and the steady expansion of woodturning toward an engaging new approach to contemporary art.

At the center of the exhibit are works by now-deceased, pioneering artists Bob Stocksdale, Rude Osolnik, Mel Lindquist, James Prestini, and Ed Moulthrop, who focused on the natural beauty of wood by utilizing simple vessel forms. From that core radiates the work of influential contemporary artists who have expanded the language of the medium in new directions.

Following its appearance at the Messler Gallery, the exhibition will be on display at the American Association of Woodturners Gallery in St. Paul, Minnesota from January 11 – April 18, 2008, and the Ohio Craft Museum in Columbus, Ohio from July 13 – August 30, 2008. Subsequently it is scheduled to appear at the Southern Ohio Museum in Portsmouth, Ohio.

Contemporary American makers represented in Far From The Tree include Michael Brolly of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania; Christian Burchard of Ashland, Oregon; Gorst du Plessis of New Orleans, Louisiana; David Ellsworth of Quakertown, Pennsylvania; Harvey Fein of New York, New York; Ron Fleming of Tulsa, Oklahoma; Giles Gilson of Schenectady, New York; Robyn Horn of Little Rock, Arkansas; William Hunter of Rancho Palos Verdes, California; John Jordan of Antioch, Tennessee; Stony Lamar of Saluda, North Carolina; Michael Lee of Kapolei, Hawaii; Mark Lindquist of Glory, Florida; Bill Luce of Renton, Washington; William Moore of Hillsboro, Oregon; Michael Peterson of Lopez Island, Washington; Merryll Saylan of San Rafael, California; Betty Scarpino of Indianapolis, Indiana; Mark Sfirri of New Hope, Pennsylvania; and Alan Stirt of Enosburg Falls, Vermont. International exhibitors include Alain Mailland from France, Graeme Priddle from New Zealand, Richard Raffan from Australia, and Hans Weissflog from Germany.

UPCOMING SHOWS

MAINE WOOD 2008
Nov. 29, 2007 – March 14, 2008

An exhibition of outstanding work by contemporary Maine furniture makers, turners, carvers, and sculptors, juried by Garrett Hack and Beth Ireland.

CELEBRATING THE STUDIO FELLOWSHIP
March 21 – April 18, 2008

Accomplished, inventive work by past and present participants in the Center’s Studio Fellowship program.