

## Badger Woodturners Presents:

### *Al Stirt*

Welcome Reception and Slide Show - Friday, March 11, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Woodturning Demonstration - Saturday, March 12, 9:00 – 4:30

Hands-on Platter Turning Workshop – March 13, 8:30 – 5:00



Al Stirt has been a professional woodturner for more than 30 years. His work is included in numerous public and private collections, including the Smithsonian, the White House and the American Craft Museum. He has demonstrated and taught about woodturning & design in England, Ireland, New Zealand and Canada as well as throughout the U.S. In 1997 the American Association of Woodturners awarded him an Honorary Lifetime Membership for his commitment and contributions to the field of woodturning.



**From Al's website:** I consider myself a "bowl maker" more than a wood turner because, although the turning process fascinates me, it is the resulting bowl that commands my interest. From the earliest times bowls have had meanings for people beyond the purely utilitarian. The bowl as vessel has a resonance deep within the human psyche. I have always thought of each piece that I make as a composition utilizing elements of pattern, line, weight, texture and form. Even in the most simple pieces I try to find a harmony of grain and shape. I seek a balance in my work between the dynamic and the serene. By playing with the tension created by combining the circle's perfection with the energy of pattern I am trying to make pieces that have life. I use patterns, whether created by grain structure or organic fluting & carving or repeated geometric shapes, to develop harmony in each of my pieces. I find myself always looking for a new means of expression within the turned form.

In 1987 the rims of the platters Al was making became wider. He began to think of the rim as a "canvas" which would become a large part of the total composition.

Cutting through a colored surface to reveal a pattern, modeled after the ceramic technique of sgraffito, enabled Al to create new kinds of patterns while utilizing plain woods.

The rims carry lot of energy, sometimes chaotic, which is resolved by the calm center.



One of Al's enduring interests has been the use of classical bowl forms.

Simple, focused forms work well in showing off interesting grain patterns as well as being sculptural objects that can command space.



**Welcome Reception:** Friday, March 11, 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Meet and visit with Al Stirt and enjoy Wisconsin bratwurst and beverages. Doors open at 6:00 and at 7:00 Al will give a presentation on his art and inspiration. No charge for this social evening. Hosted by Robust Tools and Badger Woodturners. Please bring a chair for the presentation, and please, no early birds !

**LOCATION:** Robust Tools: 2766 Brandywein Trail, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572. 608-712-0717

**Saturday Demonstration:** March 12, 9:00AM to 5:00 PM.

1) Open Bowl turning. Rough out a wet wood bowl & then finish a dry one. Emphasis on “balancing the grain” – showing how to get the best pattern from a piece of straight grain wood. Chucking methods, tool use, sharpening & discussion of the drying process.

2) Fluted or Carved bowl –demo fluting or using other carving techniques on a small bowl.

3) Sgraffito platter – Al will turn a platter with a wide rim, which is then painted and carved to create a pattern. Turning beads and coves on faceplate work as well as developing and carving a pattern.

4) Square and textured platter. Al will demo turning a small square bowl & show how to create some of the carved patterns he’s developed.

5) If there’s enough time, there will be a critique of work that members bring in. Al does this as an interaction between the members.

Please bring your own chair. Lunch, snacks and beverages are included.

**LOCATION:** Dave Hiller’s Studio: W7038 Farmers Grove Road, Monticello, WI 53570. 608-527-3661

**Sunday Platter Workshop:** March 13, 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Attendance is limited to eight turners of any skill level. First come, first serve for this unique opportunity. Please pay in advance. We’ll turn 2 platters during the day. One will be a sgraffito platter with a wide painted rim. We’ll draw and carve a pattern on the rim. The other piece will be a square turned platter with various textures made with a rotary tool. Each demo will include some turned textures, which, when done properly, do not need sanding. A detailed list of what tools and wood students will need will be provided. Bring your own wood and tools. Lunch, snacks and beverages are included.

**LOCATION:** Dave Hillers’s Studio: W7038 Farmers Grove Road, Monticello, WI 53570. 608-527-3661



YES, please sign me up for the following:

☐ Al Stirt Welcome Reception: **FREE** – Friday, March 11, 6:00 – 9:00 PM – **PLEASE RSVP BY 2/19**

☐ Al Stirt Demo Day: **\$40.00** before 2/19 (\$45 at the door) Saturday, March 12, 9:00AM to 4:30 PM

☐ Al Stirt Workshop: **\$110.00** (limited to eight) Sunday, March 13, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Your  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to “**Badger Woodturners**”*

*Send payment and this form to:*

*Badger Woodturners  
c/o Tad Pinkerton  
1212 Shorewood Blvd.  
Madison, WI 53705-2266*