

Northwest Woodturners



A Chapter of The American Association of Woodturners

Volume 23, Issue 12 The woodturners' local resource

DECEMBER 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Holidays Woodturners!

I'd like to remind everyone that there is No December meeting for Northwest Woodturners.

Elections were held last meeting and volunteers were collected for the coming club year. Officers:

Mike Porter: President
John Beechwood: Vice President
Larry Klick: Secretary
Roger Crooks: Treasurer

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Volunteers:

Library: Lynn Hemmert and Alex McDowell
Store: John Sutter
Demonstration Coordinator, Bill Giffin
Raffle, Jackie Yi and Kim Talley
AV Backup, Helen Brown
Photographer, Jim Schoeffel
Website, Roger Crooks
and last but not least, Bill Karrow

CLUB INFO

Northwest Woodturners

www.northwestwoodturners.com

Meetings are held at 7:00PM on
the 1st Thursday of each month at
The Multnomah Arts Center
7688 SW Capitol Hwy
Portland, OR 97219

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Vice President

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tmikeporter@gmail.com

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Monthly Raffle

Jackie Yi

A/V Backup

Bill Karow

Photographer

Jim Schoeffel

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Barbara Hall

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Steve Newberry

Many thanks to the tireless volunteers who stepped up to make my soon to be over term as President successful, even when my availability was limited. Special thanks to the hardest, most tireless of us, including Mike Porter, whose intelligence and organizational skills will carry us well next year, Roger Crooks, who seems to be everywhere and doing everything, Jim Schoeffel, who spends much of his time at our meetings quietly photographing our work rather than relaxing and enjoying the meeting like the rest of us, and Barbara Hall, whose time and skills have produced our club newsletter, a job my day job. Our club is what we make of it, and when we participate in a meaningful way, we all benefit.

Steve

VP's Corner by Mike Porter

Hello NW Woodturners. By the time you read this you will likely have had your fill of the Thanksgiving turkey and pumpkin pie. I'm wondering how many calories do I burn when I'm at the lathe? Likely a lot less than I'd like it to be!

Our November meeting was well attended. The topic of "Can this project be saved?" drew a nice crowd. I thought when scheduling this topic that we'd run out of things to talk about, but no! We easily filled more than an hour and had to bring the discussion to a close in order to vacate the auditorium on time. Thanks to all the panel. They came prepared to share and to answer questions. I was very pleased at the outcome and hope you that came found what was shared to be useful. I see us repeating this topic in the future and perhaps focusing in more detail on the specifics of how the wood piece is "saved".

This is my last article as your VP. John Beechwood will be stepping in at the new VP. John is currently designing a survey that will come to each of you. Expect to receive it by email in your inbox. There will be a link to Survey Monkey...yes, that is the website...and you'll be directed to our Club survey where you'll be asked to express your interest in a number of topics.

Your responses will be used as input to set up the 2019 Club Meeting demos and classes.

Estate Sale—Selling Opportunity

The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers would like to invite you to sell your handmade turned items at their December 8th Estate sale (<https://guildoforegonwoodworkers.org/event-3112168>).

Date: Dec 8th 1:00 - 1:00 (Setup is 8:30)

Location: Guild Shop (Behind Starbucks in Multnomah Village) - 7964 SW 34th Ave, Portland, Or 97219

This is the first of a Guild planned annual event, just in time for Christmas. We often get up to 100 or more buyers at these estate sales. Even if you only have a few items, you may be able to share space with other members. Good experience for first time sellers.

Details

This is a free event. The Guild takes no commission or charge for the space.

You do not need to be a Guild member to participate (although would be nice to join)

You take care of your own payments.

Setup is 8:30. Event is 10:00 - 1:00.

Space is limited so bring your own table in case it is needed.

Bill Herrold

Bill Herrold, another member has gone on. We will miss his smile and joy at everyday things. We are thankful to have had the great pleasure of being his friend for this short time.

January 3rd meeting

For our January 3rd meeting, we will hold it in Room 39, NOT the auditorium. The auditorium is undergoing seismic upgrade modifications and will not be available. Could each of you put a note in the newsletter...Barb for December and Bill for Jan? Thanks. I'll modify the website as well. Even though our meeting is 7pm, I booked us into the room starting at 5:30pm for set up. In the past, members show up early, do their buying and selling by about 6pm or later...no one waits to 7pm! We have to be out by 8:30. Should be OK.

MUSINGS ON PRACTICING CREATIVITY IN DESIGN—DON'T BE AFRAID OF DESIGN

Wood turning gives hobbyists, amateurs and professionals an outlet for their creative talents. It can be a life-long endeavor for high-school kids to retirees, to be shared and enjoyed by all. An individual can grow and develop into a skilled turner and spend many happy hours creating and producing a useful tool or elegant art piece to use, to admire and even to sell. Nowadays, however, it seems to be only within the grasp of the highly skilled professional to be able to support a family without additional income.

Often turned wood pieces follow a time-honored subject: bowls, honey dippers, pens and more bowls, of all sizes. These, of course, are fine subjects for turning, and many, many turners create really excellent pieces. What I noticed as I entered the field of turning, with my background in metalsmithing in jewelry and sculpture was a seeming commonality to much of the work. As excellent as the turnings are, there seemed to be a reticence on the part of many turners to experiment with their turnings, to attempt new forms or new techniques. There are certainly many turners who do push their boundaries and create expressive and captivating pieces. But what percentage of turners, for example, have tried to produce oval or square bowls or plates, do offset turning, or turnings that are expressions of art that have no innate practical purpose.

It was this seeming lack of diversity I felt that started me on this route. I find many turners lack a good grasp of design elements and principles, or how to apply them, and haven't learned how to "Look and See" design in all aspects of everyday life or follow through in their turned creations. I truly feel that a majority of turners would find a new sense of excitement, accomplishment and satisfaction if they would dare delve into the unknown of their craft. There is so much to learn, so much to try, and so satisfying a sense of accomplishment to be had in pushing the boundaries of our craft. This is why I decided to write my series of articles on design for the newsletter.

One important area that I believe is basic to creativity, as I emphasize in my upcoming book is 'LOOK AND REALLY SEE'. Look at any object around you, and ask yourself what it is that you naturally see in that object. Examine your coffee mug, your table and perhaps your chair. Go outdoors and look at the trees, the mountains, and the moon. Separate in your mind the parts that identify practical, utilitarian aspects from the visual or emotional elements in each item. It is not often a turner's normal way to look at objects. It has become mine over time. I strongly believe that each of us can learn how to "see" their surroundings.

The average person usually looks at an item, and sees—an item. Pick up a chisel and what do you see... a metal shaft inserted into a wood or metal handle. It weighs so much and has a particular grind at the end. But if you look at it in a different way, you can feel the texture on the handle, you feel the coolness of the shaft, or you feel the curve of the flute, and you see the metallic color of the shaft. It has nothing to do with the mechanical use of the item. It is a completely

Don't Be Afraid of Design - continued

different way of looking at things; but it is a way most people can learn to do, and it rewards us with new insights into how everyday objects can inspire us at the lathe.

Don't be afraid of design. I hear so often from turners that they can't design, or that they don't understand design or don't know how. But everyone is already designing, whether they do it consciously or not. Every time you pick out a piece of wood to turn, you have already started the process of design. Why did you pick that particular piece of wood? Is it the right shape for what you have in mind? Perhaps you like the color or grain patterning. These are design decisions! As you turn your piece, you decide what the overall shape will be - a disk such as a platter, a bowl or vessel, or perhaps a pen or pepper grinder. The choices are numerous, and you've made another design decision. You decide how large to make the diameter, how tall the piece will be, even its orientation in the blank. All design decisions!

In my series, I've attempted to acquaint you, the readers, with the scope and breadth of design principles, and provide tools that you can use, whenever you desire, to make more conscious design decisions, or to use tools to hone those decisions. I attempted to provide tools you can use to expand your palette of design options, opening the door to new or different ways of expressing yourself. In addition to helping you to "see", I have tried to offer you ways to incorporate your feelings into your work, to help you make your work reflect you as a person. I hope that each one of you can take what I have offered and make some use of it to expand the pleasure of turning, the pleasure of creation.

Remember too that turning is a journey. A major understanding that I want our Members to absorb and act upon when turning is: Good or bad, these are pieces that we have created. They represent our progress and lack of it at that point in time. Most of all they represent courage and a willingness to keep trying. The more we fail, the better we will do because that means we have tried as many times. Each time we try, we learn! This is where mastery comes from, evident in the turnings done by experts, who fail, pick up the pieces, thoughtfully analyze the problems and try, try again.

To this day, it still takes courage for some beginning or intermediate members to show their work amid pieces displayed by more advanced turners. It is also still difficult for a few to display a willingness to take criticism. That's why turning judges should learn the fine points of judging fairly and know how to exploit the positives and downplay the negatives, without whitewashing the piece; to base their critique primarily on how well the design reflects the components of good design: balance, legibility, form, appropriateness etc.; but also how well the piece reflects what the turner was trying to accomplish!

Thank you for reading my words, may you all find inspiration in them!

Barb Hall

My Thanks to You

Thank you for the opportunity to write the NWWoodturners' Newsletter this extra year. It has been four years since I laid the pen aside and went on to do other things. I really wanted as many of our members to be able to be a part of the Symposium, this major exciting event, to participate, experience and learn from it. It can indeed be a tremendous learning experience.

Many states host the AAW Symposium, so it doesn't come around to Portland very often, although after this years' outstanding success I understand it will be here once again sooner rather than later, bringing with it another opportunity to be a member of the Symposium workers. In particular I want to thank Max McBurnett for your thoughts on the Symposium that you shared in the Newsletter.

Richard and I joined the NW Woodturners after we enjoyed our first Symposium here in Portland in 2007. Also our friend Steve has been president. He has been our partner in several Frogwood retreats. Jim and I have worked together for quite a few years. All compelling reasons to write the Newsletter again.

OTHER WOODTURNER CLUBS 2018 MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

Please visit the individual club websites to verify the information presented below.

Cascade Woodturners (Portland, OR) (www.cwa49.wildapricot.org)

December 2018

Demonstrator: Dave Gutschmidt

11:00 AM ready at 1:00 PM

Willamette Valley Woodturners (Salem, OR)

Topic:

2nd Thursday, 6:30 PM at the Salem Center 50+, 2615 Portland Rd, NE Salem, OR 97303

Topic not available at this time.

Beaver State Woodturners (Eugene, OR) (www.beaverstatewoodturners.com)

4th Thursday, 6:00 PM at the Woodcraft Store, 155 Q St., Springfield, OR 9747 7

November: Topic not available at this time.

Southwest Washington Woodturners (Vancouver, WA) (www.southwestwashingtonwoodturners.com)

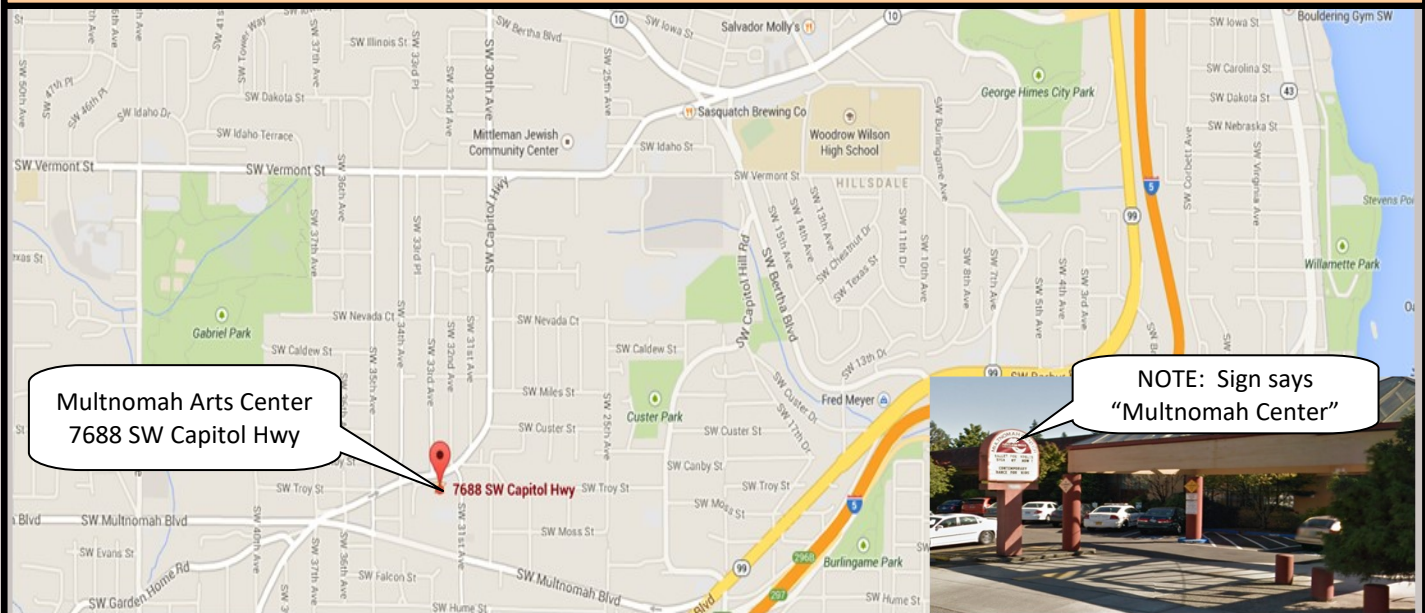
4th Wednesday, 7:00 PM at The Friends of the Carpenter's Center, 1600 West 20th St, Vancouver, WA

November: Topic not available at this time. Demonstrator:

Woodturners of Olympia (Olympia, WA) (www.woodturnersofolympia.org)

2nd Tuesday, 6:30 PM at The First Baptist Church of Olympia, 904 Washington St. SE, Olympia, WA 98507

November: Topic not available at this time. Demonstrator:

MAP TO THE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER**7688 SW Capitol Hwy, Portland, OR 97219****NORTHWEST WOODTURNERS MEETING SCHEDULE AND PROGRAMS****1st Thursday each month at 7:00 PM****The Multnomah Arts Center, 7688 SW Capitol Hwy, Portland, OR 97219**

2018	Program	Challenge
Thursday, April 5	Multi-Station Technique Demos	Pepper and/or Salt Mills
Thursday, May 3	John Beechwood III	Textured Turnings
Thursday, June 7	Tom Willing	Sphere(s)
Thursday, July 5	No Meeting; Enjoy Summer!	none
Saturday, August 4	Picnic and Wood Auction	none
Thursday, September 6	Tom Willing — Boxes	none
Thursday, October 4	Steve Newberry and Mike Meredith	Ornaments
Thursday, November 1	Elections	Holiday Pieces
Thursday, December 6	No Meeting	Happy Holidays!

2018 NATIONAL & REGIONAL SYMPOSIA

October 12-14, 2018
2018 Segmented Woodturners Symposium
St. Louis, MO

November 3-4, 2018
2018 Virginia Woodturning Symposium
Fishersville, VA

December No meetings

2019 NATIONAL & REGIONAL SYMPOSIA

July 11-14, 2019
AAW 33rd Inter national Woodturning Symposium
Raleigh, NC

Take the opportunity to visit other cubs' Symposia. See what wood turners from around the country create. It's a tremendous opportunity to infuse your own work with new ideas as well as meet interesting people who share your enjoyment of wood turning! Those of you who participated in the Symposium experienced this interesting opportunity!

LOCAL WOODWORKING STORES FREE DEMOS

Please visit the store websites to verify the information presented below

Date	Demo	Location	Time
12/01	Handmade Holiday Gifts	Rockler, Beaverton	9:30 11:30 1:30 3:30
01/12	Drawer Installation	Woodcraft, Tigard	1:00 PM
12/01	Jim Tharp: Carver	Woodcrafters, Portland	10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
12/08	Handsaw Techniques	Rockler, Beaverton	9:30 AM
12/01	Sharon Remos	Woodcrafters, Portland	10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
12/12	Drawer Installation	Woodcraft, Tigard	1:00 PM
12/08	Shirley Malar: Wood Burning	Woodcrafters, Portland	10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
12/15	Router Table Essentials	Rockler, Beaverton	11:00 AM
12/15	Shawna Ramos: Carver	Woodcrafters, Portland	10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
01/19	Dovetail Jigs	Woodcraft, Tigard	1:00 PM
12/22	Mercedes McCreight: Wood Burning	Woodcrafters	10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
01/26	Lathe Tool Sharpening	Woodcraft, Tigard	1:00 PM

Many other fine classes and demos are available from these local stores:

Rockler, Beaverton, 503-672-7266, <http://www.rockler.com/retail/stores/or/portland-store>

Woodcraft, Tigard, 503-684-1428, <http://www.woodcraft.com/stores/store.aspx?id=312>

Woodcrafters, Portland, 503-231-0226, <http://www.woodcrafters.us/>

All demos are free of charge, courtesy of the shops
Visit demos; Enjoy and Learn

OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS

We encourage our Northwest Woodturners members to visit these business partners to find the many great products they carry and to stock up on the necessary items for your wood turning needs.


Be sure to remind the sales clerk that you are a member of Northwest Woodturners! Our business partners provide NWWT with generous gifts based on member purchases.



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PROGRAM: CAN THESE PROJECTS BE SAVED? PHOTOGRAPHER: Jim Schoeffel

Can these projects be saved?
Probably...by applying some of the suggestions and
advice provided by the panel of "experts".



NOVEMBER CHALLENGE — HOLIDAY PIECES PHOTOGRAPHER: Jim Schoeffel**Challenge Winner
Bruce Dixon**

Sea Urchin Ornaments
Rosewood (left)

2-1/4" dia. x 7" long

African Blackwood (right)

2-1/4" dia. x 6-1/2" long

Halloween Pumpkin Ornament

Padauk, Walnut & African Blackwood

2-1/4" dia. x 6-1/2" long

**NOVEMBER SHOW-n-TELL****PHOTOGRAPHER: Jim Schoeffel****Winner: Mike Webb**

Cherry Bowl with French polish finish
Some voids filled with crushed stone and CA glue
10-1/4" dia. x 3-1/2" high x 3" deep

**Skip Burke**

"Black Walnut Bowl
10" dia. x 2-3/4" high x 2" deep



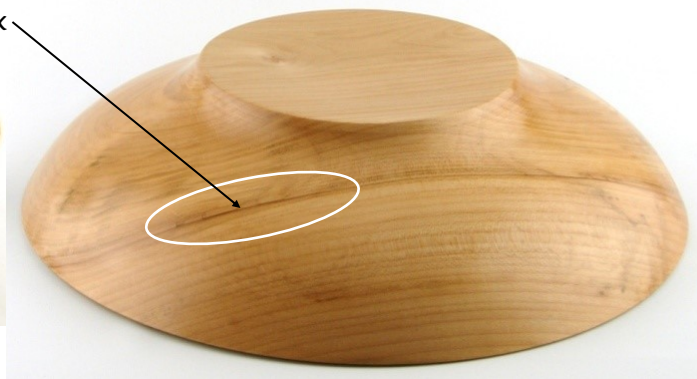
NOVEMBER SHOW-n-TELL (continued)

PHOTOGRAPHER: Jim Schoeffel

Helen Brown**Maple Bowl**

11-3/4" dia. x 2-3/4" high x 2-1/2" deep

A work in progress:
Warped and cracked after turning.

**Terry Tanner****Maple Bowl**

7" dia. x 3" high x 2-1/2" deep



Cracked after turning. Filled
crack with CA glue, then added
pattern by pyrography to hide it.



NOVEMBER SHOW-n-TELL (continued)

PHOTOGRAPHER: Jim Schoeffel

Roger Crooks

Figured Maple Plates & Bowls
Lacquered with Dyed Rims (except one)



6-1/4" dia. x 1-1/2" high



6-1/2" dia. x 3/4" high



6-5/8" dia. x 1-1/2" high



8" dia. x 1-1/2" high



8-1/8" dia. x 1-1/2" high



9-7/8" dia. x 1-3/4" high



NOVEMBER SHOW-n-TELL (continued)

PHOTOGRAPHER: Jim Schoeffel

Roger Crooks

Beaded Cottonwood Bowl
12-1/4" dia. x 6" high x 5-1/2" deep



EDITOR'S NOTES

All Newsletters can be accessed from the NWWT website www.northwestwoodturners.com. If you do not have internet access, provide me with your mailing address and newsletters will be sent via USPS.

If you do not receive a courtesy email from me by the beginning of the month indicating that a new newsletter is available on line, please send me your current email address.

Submissions to the newsletter are due by the 20th of the month. Articles, tips, web links, classified ads, or other woodturning-related items from all members are welcome.

barbara@iwci.com

For other business inquiries contact Northwest Woodturners at: Northwest Woodturners, P.O Box 1157, Lake Oswego, OR 97035

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