



CHATTERMARKS

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Olympic Peninsula Woodturners
Olympic Peninsula Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners
P.O. Box 623 Silverdale, WA. 98383
www.OPCAAW.com

Woodturners' Christmas

The annual Olympic Peninsula Woodturners Holiday Potluck is our biggest social gathering of the year. All members are encouraged to bring their family to this wonderful event, slated for the evening of Wednesday, December 10th, at 6 o'clock in the Chico Adventist School Gymnasium. There will be great food, a bit of live music, and good conversation between friends. And, of course, dozens of prizes (woodturning tools, gift certificates, wood, etc) will be distributed to those who earned red drawing tickets through the year at our monthly meetings.

OPCAAW will provide ham and turkey main dishes; members whose last names begin with A through G should bring hors d'oeuvres or salad; H through M bring side dishes; N-Z should bring a dessert.

For updates and additional information see the club website: OPCAAW.com



The Simplest Fundraiser: Passing the Hat.

By Russell Neyman.

THERE ARE TIMES when we can over-think things, ignoring the fact that a simple solution is staring us right in the face, and this might have been one of them:

It was fairly obvious to everyone that our video camera system – the key component to our monthly demonstrations that makes it possible for the members to see the details of what is being shown -- was woefully out of date. Jeff Childs, our lead videographer, approached the board, asking for funding to purchase new cameras and other equipment so that the picture quality could be improved. He asked for \$2000-2500.

We agreed that improvements were overdue, but there was absolutely nothing in the budget for this sort of major purchase.

The Board scratched heads, mulled various line items, and pondered the possibilities. The most we could spend out of our current bank account would be \$1000, and that might push us to the limit. So, we spent another half an hour thinking of ways to come up with funding.

We decided to have at least two events that would be both fun and a source of revenue: One, a Tool Swap Meet, tentatively slated for February; and two, a Boxmaking Workshop, hosted by Jimmie Allen, planned for April.

Wondering if these two programs would generate the requisite money, we ended the discussion. At that moment, somebody said: “Why don’t we just pass the hat at the next meeting? Who

knows—perhaps someone in the room might be in a generous mood and toss a hundred-dollar bill in there....?”

So I grabbed an old top hat and brought it to the meeting. After explaining the need to the group, the hat traveled around the room and came back filled quite nicely; the money generated with that simplest of fundraisers (about \$375) put us well on the road to purchasing a new camera system.

Thanks to all of you who donated. And – oh, yes – to meet our goal of \$2500 we’ll be ‘passing the hat’ again.

► IT GOES WITH SAYING that I wish all of you the Happiest of Holidays and hope to see you at the December 10th *Woodturners’ Christmas Party*.

Please bring your family and friends!

► THE ROCKWELL/DELTA 46-111 lathe donated by former member George Luzik and auctioned off at the November meeting also raised significant funds. All told, the lathe, mobile stand, and tools raised \$275 that has been earmarked for our 25th Anniversary Party next October.

George is one of those turners who responded to our suggestion that old equipment be donated to the group, rather than simply unloading it to a stranger with a classified ad. You may recall that Al McLaughlin’s family decided to do the same earlier in the year, donating several pieces of equipment and a truckload of wood to OPCA AW. In both cases, both the donor and the eventual buyers went away very happy, and the club benefited.

So, if you have an old lathe, bandsaw, sharpening station or other equipment that needs a home, consider putting a clause in your will. George, of course, is alive and well, but he realized that the club was in a good position to maximize the benefits of his old machine.

► NORMALLY, OUR elections are rather dull affairs, since the club almost always ends up with a slate of unopposed officers elected by a voice vote. At last month's general meeting, everything followed that pattern, with seven officers being elected by acclimation in a process conducted by Past President Norm Hix.

But that wasn't the end of the story. Within 24 hours, two officers – Treasurer Ellen Winnie and Vice President of Training Ralph Lindberg, decided that they would not serve for another term after all, despite being duly elected the night before.

So that left us short-handed as we begin planning 2015. Luckily, Ralph has things well planned for the coming months, so we have a good measure of time before we absolutely must find a permanent replacement. Even better, veteran club officer Jimmie Allen, who held Ralph's position for seven years previously, has stepped up to serve as Interim VP through the spring. We couldn't be happier about that, even though Ralph will be missed.

Finding a replacement for Ellen Winnie is a tougher assignment. The position of OPCA AW Treasurer is demanding in that it requires someone who is both familiar with finances (Quickbooks) but also available to issue checks on short notice.

We already have two excellent candidates for Treasurer, but the current Board of Directors feels that before we nominate a replacement, we should open the discussion up to the general membership.

If you are interested in either position or wish to nominate someone, please send a note to

Feedback@OPCAAW.com

The Board of Directors wishes to thank Ralph and Ellen for their long service to the club and valued contributions. We are sorry to see you go, but know you will continue to be talented members of the club.

► ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT that occurred within the election process was the addition of Jim Conway to the Board as Vice President of Public Relations. Jim is smart, articulate, and outgoing, making him the perfect choice to succeed outgoing PRVP Larry Matkins.

But there's more good news: Larry has agreed to stay on as webmaster, working under Jim. If you peek at our online website (OPCAAW.com) you'd see that Larry has already made dramatic improvement to the features.

► ONE PROJECT that will probably come up this next year is revision of our Bylaws. There are several issues which need addressing, including a possible clarification of the organization's name and various vague procedures.

If any member has experience with these sorts of things, please drop us a note at the aforementioned email address.

--RN

VERN'S SAFETY NOTE OF THE MONTH

Safety, like construction, begins with a good foundation. The area where you work must be clear of clutter or anything that would cause you to stumble, slip or become distracted. You also need good, substantial footwear. Flip flops are not an option. If you insist on turning with flip flops or sandals, be sure to have plenty of shavings on the floor to absorb the blood that will eventually be present. We are here to enjoy woodturning. Time spent in the ER is time wasted away from your lathe.

Oregon Woodturning Symposium

March 6-8, 2015 in Albany, OR. **The Oregon Woodturners Symposium** invites you to join them at an informative weekend. With over 40+ live demonstrations to attend, you will have the opportunity to see *Mike Mahoney*, *Jimmy Clewes*, *Trent Bosch*, *Kirk De Heer* and several other nationally and regionally recognized woodturners covering a wide range of turning topics. A Penturners' Gathering, featuring *Don Ward*, will be held Friday night. You will also have the opportunity to win a **Jet 12-21 EVS** lathe.

Advanced registration is only \$225 for the full weekend of demos and includes Penturners' Gathering, vendor showcase, instant gallery, banquet and live auction.

www.oregonwoodturningsymposium.com provides additional information and instructions for registering either online or by mail - directly from your browser. For detailed information regarding the range of topics, hotel accommodations, vendor showcase, spousal program and more, please see their website.

Your early registration will help better plan for this event. If you have any questions please feel welcome to contact Terry Gerros, gerrost@yahoo.com 503-580-5013.

What's next for you?

Comes a time when a turner puts in enough hours to finally put out a decent product on a fairly regular basis. Watching the shavings fly off the bowl gouge isn't quite as fascinating as it used to be, and picking up a skew no longer triggers a panic attack. You've got some skills. So what next?

Consider art and think tiny. Think miniatures. Miniatures are challenging, not too scary, and don't require a large initial investment. They are delicate and they are fun. They are art.



Just ask Brad Staves. He is affiliated with Gallery Row, which just

happens to be holding the first annual Itty Bitty Art Show. This is a juried art show on art miniatures, open to local artist. That means your submission will be judged, and you could win cash awards, which would make you an award-winning artist with bragging rights.



It cost only ten dollars to enter, and you have until January 24 to make your application. You can find some rules and a lot more information at <http://www.opcaaw.com/InfoPages/ittybittyflyer.pdf>.

So start thinking miniatures, and start turning small. The application deadline is before our next meeting. You can get your entry Form at <http://www.opcaaw.com/InfoPages/ittybittyentry.pdf>. Brad is not one of the judges, but he is involved with the gallery and the show. You can probably talk to him about it at the Christmas party.

There is some really good information from an expert, with links to his tutorials at <http://web.hypersurf.com/~charlie2/Turning/Miniatures/Miniatures1.html>.

UPCOMING

December 10 is our annual Christmas party. No regular meeting this month.

The Seattle Woodturners will have a demo by Derek Weidman on **Jan 10**. For info call Don McNutt [425-774-0024](tel:425-774-0024). Hint: wood sculpture, website <http://weidmanwoodsculpture.com>.

January 28, Is our regularly scheduled meeting. The Pacific North West wood artist, Steven Hatcher, will be presenting forms and finishes. Preview some of his work at <http://stephenhatcher.com>.

February 25, the meeting will feature a presentation on How to make a Training Presentation.

Sometime in February, the club will hold a tool swap meet, proceeds to go into the video upgrade project.

March 6-8 is the Inaugural AAW Oregon Woodturning Symposium

The NW Washington Woodturners (Bellingham area) will host a demo and workshops with Michael Hosaluk, **Mar 20-22**. For info call Dennis Shinn 360-854-9909. Mike's site is <http://www.michaelhosaluk.com/>.

March 25 is when Molly Winton, famous woodturning artist from Port Townsend, will present Making Mini Vessels and Carving Textures. Website <http://www.turningmaven.com/>.

In April, a symposium on turning boxes, by our own Jimmie Allen.



Turner Profile—Peter Gerstel

Peter is currently serving as secretary for our club, and has just been re-elected to serve another year. His background is primarily machine shop and teaching, and aids him well in his woodturning passion of Ornamental Turning. It is a whole lot more complicated than regular woodturning, and that's how Peter likes it.

Besides being an officer and active supporter of our club, he is also a member of the big Rose Engine club in Pennsylvania. He provides a valuable service for the ornamental turning community world-wide by proving or correcting work documents by testing them. He recently attended the Ornamental Turner's International Symposium in Columbus, Ohio won an award for his symposium project, covered in a small article in last month's *Chattermarks*.

The President of the Rose Engine Turners published a profile of Peter in their spring/summer issue of the Lindow Machine Works Rose Engine News (a newsletter with quite a bit of math in it). A few extractions from that publications follow.

Per David Lindow: Peter is a multifaceted individual who is a woodworker, ornamental turner, machinist, tool maker, teacher, outdoorsman, and all around nice guy. He has shared photos of his 600 square feet shop which has seven lathes, table saw, shop saw, two milling machines, desk, 8 foot x 3 foot workbench, metal shaper, and all the accessories for each machine. Peter has utilized all of his shop space very efficiently. You'll also note that he is serious about safety and his health. He's installed a hard-piped vacuum system and has safety equipment readily at hand. Peter lives in Poulsbo, Washington where he and his family enjoy all the area has to offer including wind surfing on the Hood River

Condensed from Peter's responses to some interview questions: He was born and raised in the Chicago area and went to Stout State to become a machine shop teacher. He worked his father's sailboat and a screw machine factory for a number of summers to help pay for most of his college. He and his wife taught in separate Chicago area, then moved to Wisconsin and then on to Poulsbo, Washington.

"We left most of our furniture because I wanted to build craftsman style furniture for our new house and I got to buy all the necessary tools. After building about 50 pieces of furniture, I decided to try a course in woodturning at the local Woodcraft store in Seattle. I, of course, was hooked on turning and that was about 6 years ago. I went to the AAW convention in Portland where I first saw a rose engine and attended a seminar by Jon Magill. After thinking about what I really wanted to do I decided to purchase a Lindow Rose Engine."

On Ornamental Turning: "I do not call myself an artist but a technician. I find that the chase is just as good as the final project and sometimes better. It's really about keeping your mind active."... and "The work I enjoy most is the kind that keeps my mind in turmoil and wakes me in the middle of the night to write down a solution."

There is a lot more good info in the newsletter but can't be reprinted in this issue because of space restrictions, but more could follow. He stays pretty busy, actively involved in two large turning organizations, maintaining and modifying several wood and metal lathes in his own shop, and operating all that machinery. And he still has time for wind surfing.

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MENTORING PROGRAM

We are looking for some new mentors. The folks who are currently doing the great service have been doing it for a long time. See any of the board officers if you are interested. The mentoring programs has been set up to answer questions and give help to new members and those whom may be having a problem in a specific area. Although not intended to be free lessons in woodturning (many of those volunteering are professional turners and derive their income from turning and teaching), these are some friendly folks willing to give you a point in the right direction.

Dan Ackerman	Brinnon	(360)796-4155
"Tones" Briggs	Port Orchard	(360)271-6448
George Kromka	Bremerton	(360) 373-1028
Jim Leary	Kingston	(360) 297-5872
Bob Hickernell	Bremerton	(360) 479-5501
Brad Stave	Gig Harbor	(253) 514-8562 bstave@comcast.net

Chapter Officers

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Vice President of Public Relations	Larry Matkins	(360)551-1044	PublicRelations@opcaaw.com
Vice President of Membership	Schuyler Beaver	(360)698-4108	Membership@opcaaw.com
Secretary	Peter Gerstel	(360)697-6150	Secretary@opcaaw.com
Treasurer	Ellen Winnie	(360)779-5979	Treasurer@opcaaw.com
Sergeant at Arms	Vern West	(360)479-8634	SargeantAtArms@opcaaw.com
Vice President of Special Events	Cindy Allen	(360)373-3041	SpecialEvents@opcaaw.com

OPCAAW Staff Positions

Librarian	James McFarland	(903)352-9807
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Cameraman	Tex Lewis	(360)698-3893
Audio Engineer	Stan Stumbo	(206)842-1458
Photographer	J. Louis King	(206)714-2324
Sand Paper and Glue Sales	Barb Davis	(360)373-1858