



CHATTERMARKS

November 2014
Volume III, Issue 11

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

November Presentation Comes In Variety Pack

Have you ever tried the skew exercises of an Alan Lacer video and do you have problems doing them like Alan does? Let George help! One lathe will be dedicated to the skew, and George Kromka will be helping with familiarization and techniques of the skew chisel, at the very least. Bring your own skew and get the feel of it with expert guidance.

NOVEMBER MEETING

19 November, 6:30 pm,
Kitsap Adventist School 5088 NW Taylor Rd.
Bremerton, WA

With Social, Library, Show and Tell Tables and wood auction viewing before the meeting starts.

Our resident Kiwi, John Elliott, will be using his teaching skills at another station to educate us in tool control.

Brad Stave will have a sharpening station, and Oneway sharpening jigs. Bring in any of your tools that need to be shaped or sharpened, and see what Brad can do.

Are you fascinated by the precision and challenge of making the perfectly-fitted lidded box? Come over to Jimmy Allen's station and watch the master in action. Jimmy's boxes are so far above most that you can tell his at a glance, and he makes it look easy.

There will also be a couple of lathes set up for use as needed. Pack up your wood and tools, whatever you need to re-create a problem and come on in and set it up. We have a lot of people in our club, with experience in every facet of woodturning. Get your tools sharpened so they work, and let someone show you their way around your problem.

This is the last wood auction of the year, and your last chance to support your club with a choice

wood donation or purchase until the end of January. Barb says that glue and sandpaper inventories have been topped off, so come on in and stock up.

Woodturners! Christmas

You and your family are invited to attend
the Olympic Peninsula Woodturners
Annual Holiday Potluck
Wednesday, December 10th, at 6 o'clock
At the Chico Adventist School Gymnasium.
There will be great food, dozens of door prizes,
and good conversation between friends.
For updates and additional information see
the club newsletter or OPCAAW.com

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.



Looking for Feedback, Honest.

By Russell Neyman.

WITH AN ELECTION looming at this month's meeting, It might be a good time to review what this Board of Directors has accomplished this past year. That way, if you want to dump one or more of us, there's still time. I think that all of the current officers will say that serving the club this year has been a most satisfying experience.

The election will take place on November 19th, with officers assuming their duties on January 1st. *Any individual who would like to add a name to the ballot – theirs or another person's – may do so prior to the November 12th OPCA AW Board of Directors Meeting.* This can be done by email (Feedback@OPCAAW.com) or by contacting any officer.

There are eight elected officers who work closely with the appointed staff positions and the mentors to do the behind-the-scenes work. This core group of hard-working individuals shoulder the planning, fundraising, and organizing that make it possible for about 75 artisans to expand their woodturning horizons and gain inspiration at our various events.

We will have at least one new officer: the all-important Vice President of Public Relations and Publicity, as Larry Matkins is "retiring" after several years of great work. All of the other positions – President, VP of Education, VP of Membership, Treasurer, Secretary, and Sergeant-at-Arms are running for re-election. The point is, if you'd like to see things go in another direction, speak your piece and put your name on the ballot.

I think it is safe to say that we have accomplished a great deal this past year, despite a still-dormant economy. Our membership is growing and meeting attendance is on the rise; more importantly, the group is enthusiastic and energized.

Looking back on the last 12 months, we can't help but be encouraged by what has been done. While we began with some serious staffing issues, we now have a full crew to offer the various club services every month without fail. Our financial condition is extremely solid – thanks in large measure to Treasurer Ellen Winnie's close monitoring of expenses – and we can look to 2015 knowing that we could handle an emergency or two without missing a beat.

One of the mandates I set when I began my first term was that we absolutely would always do what we promised: there would always be a library on hand, the glue/sandpaper sales would be set up without fail, and we would continuously provide audio and video support for the demonstrations.

On that last subject, perhaps the biggest boost to our monthly program was the addition of Jeff Childs as the lead videographer. He has unselfishly and tirelessly worked to upgrade and improve our systems. His crew and the audio staff have done a great job of adjusting to always-changing situations to help all of see and hear the information being presented. (Look for an article elsewhere in this issue of CHATTERMARKS for some thoughts on that.)

The Club Lending Library is another key component to "elevating the art of

woodturning,” and thanks to any number of people – Ray Ewing, Brad Stave, and Barb Davis, in particular – we have one of the finest and most accessible collections on the subject of Woodturning available anywhere.

Another issue we tackled this past year was getting the Mentoring Program clarified and organized. Now, when a novice or intermediate woodturner wants a bit of assistance – technical, inspirational, or otherwise – there is a system in place to provide sound counsel. Tones Briggs, our Lead Mentor, spearheaded this effort.

We also developed two pieces of collateral that will serve us for years to come: a clean, easy-to-read club color brochure, and a large portable display that highlights our programs. Both of these were unveiled at the Kitsap County Fair, where our large display was a tremendous hit. There were dozens of people who made the Fair happen, but Vern West was especially a stalwart, taking on more than his share of the work. Louie King was also a big help, adding his creative flair as well as his expansive printing services.

And, of course, we all enjoyed a series of creative demonstrations and workshops, all arranged by Ralph Lindberg, the VP of Training.

Looking forward to 2015, we hope to move in new and exciting directions. One program that should prove especially challenging is a Youth Program in the spring. We’ll be working in concert with other woodturning organizations from Washington State in an effort to encourage younger artisans and, perhaps, children to give spinning wood a try.

All of the current officers, future officers, and staff members sincerely want to know what you think. What can

we do differently to make the club a better experience? What types of demonstrations would you like to see more of? Do you have suggestions or thoughts on how we can better stage our events? What’s on your mind?

Every comment and suggestion will be carefully considered. We really want to hear from you, either personally or through Feedback@OPCAAW.com.



The "Woodturners' Holiday Party" will have tons of food, prizes, and entertainment. *Photo by J Louis Kina.*

► **DECEMBER 10TH** is the date of our annual Woodturner's Holiday Party (the date listed in our last issue was incorrect; *my fault*) and we can expect a great deal of merriment. A moment of the 2013 feeding frenzy is shown in the photo, above.

Cindy Allen adds: "It will be held at the same location as our monthly club meetings. Anyone wishing to help with

setup on the night of the party please arrive about 5:00 pm. If a member or their spouse would like to assist in making this come together (i.e. decorate tables, pick up items for the party, lead the setup crew) or have questions, please call me at 360 373-3041.

“As in years past, the club will be providing ham and turkey. We’re asking that members with the last name starting with A through G should bring hors d’oeuvres or salad, H-O a side dish, and N-Z a dessert. Anyone out there want to do the potatoes and gravy, scallop potatoes?”

Cindy continues, “We will have tables set up for a special display at the party so the members and their families can see and admire the talents and growth of the club. Encouraging all members to bring in some of your work - if something is for sale, feel free to put a price on it (may help some of us do our Christmas shopping!).

“For members who have items or gift certificates to donate for the December party’s drawing, I will be accepting them at the November OPCA AW club meeting. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.”

Besides the annual raffle – those red tickets you filled out for bringing auction items, guests, kids’ tops, and nametags will be converted into hundreds of dollars in door prizes -- there will be ample good food and some live entertainment. This is a family event, so please invite your kids, parents, and grandkids.

Speaking of door prizes, if you know of a restaurant, retail store, or company who might be willing to donate something to our cache

of goodies, please contact our Special Events Chairperson, Cindy Allen, at 360-373-3041. You’d be surprised how many businesses you visit on a regular basis will be happy to make a donation if you just take the time to ask them!

There will be no other December meeting.

► **THERE’S STILL TIME** to dramatically increase the number of red tickets you have in the raffle bowl, and George Kromka’s “Tops for Kids” is an easy way to do it.

The club will award one ticket for every five miniature spinning tops you add to his bucket located on the Show & Tell table; larger tops will be worth one ticket apiece.

George wants to fill the bucket completely by next summer, and we’ll



This Rockwell/Delta lathe, donated to the club by former member George Luzik, will be auctioned off at the November Meeting.

give the tops out to children at various events we sponsor.

► **THE ROCKWELL/DELTA** 46-111 lathe donated by former member George Luzik will be auctioned off at the November meeting. If you have a fellow woodturner who is looking for a solid machine with a few accessories, invite him or her to the meeting to bid on it. Membership in OPCA AW is not a requirement for bidding.

It features Rockwell's unique "gapped bed" design, which means that it is capable of holding objects 11 inches in diameter by 36 inches long over the standard bed, except adjacent to the drive end, where a bowl as large as 14 inches can be turned.

The machine probably dates back to the 1970's but is remarkably well kept and has decades of dependability left. It is a four-speed, belt driven unit with a 110-volt half-horsepower motor.

► **OCTOBER'S SHOW & TELL**

was absolutely jaw-dropping and I've never been so proud to be a member of the club. There were, perhaps, 100 show-worthy pieces on display, far more than we could possibly discuss in detail. Thanks to all of you who took the time to bring things to share. Hopefully, the table will continue to be full at upcoming meetings. Personally, I find the stuff you share inspiring.

One of the things that impressed me was the fact that there were several "bowls with issues" brought in, too. Hearing about those types of projects often teach us more than those that went off without a hitch.

Thanks to Norm Hix for doing a great demonstration on segmented work, too.

--RN

Thoughts on Upgrading Our Camera System.

By Jeff Childs, Lead Videographer

I'm the guy that gets in your way moving that camcorder around when you're trying to watch the demonstrator. Not sure if you have noticed, but I am getting a little frustrated trying to get you a good picture on those big TV's up front. The bottom line is the TV screen just ain't gonna get any better with the equipment we have.

Now, I don't have any 'special' training on using camcorders and taking videos, but I do understand basic photographic concepts. I have a decent digital camera that I love to use, and have a strong desire to always get the

best picture I can out of the equipment in front of me.

I have had a few members come up to me in recent months complaining of the poor quality....so hopefully more of you than just a handful are interested in updating our video gear. And....please take note....I am not in any position to take offense to any or all that disagree with or cannot afford to help towards this cause.

I have been doin' some research for the past few months, talking to folks in the know, reading on-line articles galore, and been trying a few different things

with the club's camcorders. And here is what I have found out (and you probably know where this is going by now, but bear with me):

Dick Bird (the previous long time video guy) says he paid \$150 each (used) for our current two camcorders 3-4 years ago. They are standard definition (not High Definition), and not good in low light situations; that's why we get such poor resolution and poor color anytime we do not use the light bar and are not in close range. They do have a decent 32x zoom feature, but that can't be utilized all the time because of the other two limiting factors. So....the way I see it.....what you see and have seen for the past several years....won't and can't get any better no matter who does what.....unless we light the whole place up, and then we still won't have a high definition picture that the TV's are capable of handling.

The question that is beckoning, then, is if you....the club members....think it worthwhile to invest in new video equipment, or continue to try to improve with our existing. And....if there is a nod in favor....to what degree? More of what I have found out includes:

- 'Good', new or used consumer 1080p High Definition (HD) units available from \$300 up. Our current units were in this category several years ago.
- 'Better, very good,' new, HD units start at around \$850.
- 'Semi-pro' units start new at \$1500.

The features that separate the best from the good include: battery life, low light rating, zoom features, lens quality, wire-less/remote features, video data storage, (recording time), LCD screen size/resolution, image stabilization, to name a few. It can get complicated real quickly. So enough said on this. Except.....that there would also be

some additional expense on peripheral equipment (HDMI cables, switch box, etc.)....hoping to stay under \$100 total.

There it is. All it takes is money...like everything else. The question is then how important is this to you? How will we pay for it without cutbacks to other club programs? Several options seem to come to mind if there is a nod towards 'yes'--

Perhaps someone in our club has a quality unit that they're no longer using, to donate?

Maybe one or more charitable individuals are able and willing to fund most or all of whatever it is we need?

Perhaps we should pass the hat, collecting money toward the better equipment we need. Members could donate whatever they feel is appropriate, --or not. I am all about getting the biggest bang for the buck, so looking for low-use 'used' units is certainly an option.

Any and all are welcome to contact me at 360-303-7074 should you have any old or new ideas or suggestions.

VERN'S

SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Before you turn on any machine, look around. Is there enough clear space for you and your tools and any visitors to view and work safely? Each tool has its own work space requirement. When you are working alone these spaces may overlap but do not neglect the machines operating space requirement. Enjoy your woodturning, avoid healthcare providers.
Vern West

Club Member Wins Prize at International Symposium

Peter Gerstel attended the Ornamental Turner's International Symposium the first weekend of October. The symposium was held in Columbus, Ohio and consisted of three days of demonstrations, lectures, and discussion regarding ornamental turning. Vendors were also present and many people selected special types of wood for their projects. During the last dinner, members were able to place any piece that they had made into a number of various categories. Peter entered his project, a finial box, into the rose engine category with seven other contestants, and won the Rose Cup Award for the best work done on a rose engine. The piece will be shown at the next meeting.



Peter's prize-winning creation from the international symposium. It will be on display at the November 19 meeting.

UPCOMING

November 14-16, The Woodworking Shows come to Portland. This is a really big show, with an impressive slate of vendors, tools and technology, and seminars. You can learn a little more at

<http://www.thewoodworkingshows.com/shows.htm>.

November 19 (unusual date because of Thanksgiving) a shortened version of a symposium, featuring sharpening, tool control, skew, and boxes, at minimum.

November 22, big art sale featuring our own Brad Stave. Kitsap Golf and Country Club, 3885 NW Golf Club Hill Rd, Bremerton, 11am-7pm.

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

January 28, the Pacific North West wood artist, Steven Hatcher, will be presenting forms and finishes.

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

March 25 is when Molly Winton will demonstrate Introduction to Surface Enhancements, Pyrography: Effective Use of Home-Made Brands and Commercial Pyrography Pens, or Making Mini Vessels and Carving Textures. Any one of the three is good stuff, coming from this world-recognized artist.

Our Training Chairman, Ralph Lindberg, is always looking for ideas and suggestions for future presentations, and sometimes even volunteers. You can catch Ralph at a meeting, or email Training@opcaaw.com.

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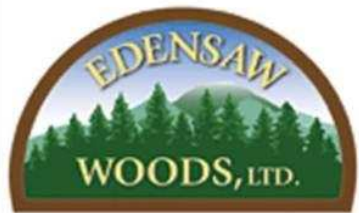
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MENTORING PROGRAM

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

President	Russell Neyman	(360)813-4484	President@opcaaw.com
Vice President of Education and Training	Ralph Lindberg	(360)779-5979	Training@opcaaw.com
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
Video Director	Jeff Childs	(360)765-3954
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