



# CHATTERMARKS

August 2014  
Volume III, Issue 8

Olympic Peninsula Woodturners  
Olympic Peninsula Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners  
P.O. Box 623 Silverdale, WA. 98383  
[www.OPCAAW.com](http://www.OPCAAW.com)

## **GETTING UP FRONT WITH THE FINISH! Don McIvor lays it all out at the August meeting**

In a recent questionnaire, the most requested topic for presentations was finishes for woodworking. You asked for it, and we were able to provide it. Don McIvor is going to address that very topic at our August 27 meeting, and he knows finishes.

Don expresses his creativity in many mediums, primarily writing, music, photography, and woodworking. He has been involved in woodworking for 25 years, inspired by such greats as Richard Raffan, James Prestini, Bob Stocksdale, David Ellsworth, and Mike Mahoney. You can take a look at some of his stuff on his web site at <http://mcivorwoodworks.com/>.

Don has traveled a bit of the world, especially Asia, and has lived in Australia, Virginia, and most recently, Twisp. Twisp and the Methow valley have recently been in the news because of the raging wildfires in eastern Washington. The Raising Eagle fire came within 100 feet of Don's home; he has lost power and been off-line a lot this summer, but he assures us that he will be able to make our meeting.

Do an internet search on wood finishing, and you will find enough information to glaze even a librarian's eyes, and a whole lot more opinion than fact. There are ten different classes of finishes Don is going to be talking about in an attempt to clear things up for us. In addition to his practical demonstrations, he has quite a bit of hard information to share with us. He has created a handout chock full of information for a reference. After the meeting, the handout will be emailed out to all members to print out or save electronically.

The meeting will start right around 6:30 on Wednesday, August 27. Show up a little early, and have some coffee or soda and cookies. Invest your allowance in sandpaper and glue at really bargain prices. Peruse our recently revamped lending library for textbook or video instruction. Preview the show-and-tell tables and the wood auction tables. But most of all, just show up ready to have fun and learn a lot about finishes.



## Bowls On Display.

By Russell Neyman.

**WE INSTALLED THE BIG BLUE** Velcro wall and rolled Tony DeCarlo's Rockwell lathe into place right in the middle of the President's Hall; the bright graphics printed by Louie King were added, suggesting that craftspeople should "Turn Up With Us." New color brochures highlighting our array of woodturning programs were folded and put into racks.

After six weeks of preparation and meeting with officials, The Olympic Peninsula Woodturners Guild display at the 2014 Kitsap County Fair was almost complete. The only thing left to do was ... *add a collection of bowls*. And that task represents a significant challenge. Not an easy thing at all.

It's a struggle we face every time we plan a demonstration or put on a workshop: Who are we? What do we do? Are we makers of practical objects, like salad bowls and rolling pins? Or are we artisans, who spin beautiful round sculptures created exclusively to capture the imagination? The truth is we're all of those things.

The leadership of OPCAAW has long of the biggest challenges we face is to create appeal of all segments of our membership. The eager to learn the basics and thrive on turning, while the "crusty old veterans" are looking advanced challenges. How do we address both month?

We do what we can. Last month we Nifty Shop Tips," which entailed a wealth of techniques that beginners loved, with a smattering of clever concepts that caught the eye of the advanced turners. (I, for one, did not know that guitar strings make great burning wires. Kudos to George Kromka for that tip.)

But the audience, we noted, was predominantly comprised of novices and intermediate turners. This coming month will be a rather expansive discussion of Finishing Techniques, bringing the newest technology to the forefront. We think that this will appeal to everyone, novices and advanced, alike.

So that brings us back to the challenge of picking appropriate turnings for the Fair display. We will do our best to show a wide-ranging collection of work, including very simple objects as well as intricate pieces of art. The truth is, after all those weeks of putting together the display itself, the task of physically collecting examples of our work was logistically impractical, so we just asked a few individuals to provide five or six pieces apiece. We're hoping some turners will simply show up with their best work and add it to the collection on display.

For those of you who might not have seen it before, The Kitsap County Fair and Stampede is a full-blown craft, horticulture, and livestock show that also includes a rodeo. There are concerts and carnival rides, too. It runs from Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, the 24<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you there.



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presented "Fifty

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**AS THE PLANS FOR THE FAIR** unfolded, one glaring deficiency became apparent: we were long overdue to create a handout that outlines what our club does, summarizes our various programs,

and provides basic information about meetings. We required something that we can pass out to people interested in joining and to new members.

A brochure needed to be created, *and in a hurry!* So, without a committee or a budget, I knocked out a six-panel, two-fold brochure that highlights the Olympic Peninsula Woodturners Guild. I hope everyone agrees with the decisions I made.


This is what the center spread looks like. Additional panels feature a sampling of our demonstrations as well as photos of member works.

*Elevating the art of woodturning in Western Puget Sound for more than two decades.*

**S**ome of the finest woodturners in America reside right here on the Olympic Peninsula, and that talent is the cornerstone of the Olympic Peninsula Woodturners Guild. Our group is large — about 180 active participants — and we have a wealth of assets to enhance the art. We meet monthly in a large facility in the Bremerton area where we exchange ideas, learn from experts, and share resources. Details about upcoming events can be found at [OPCAAW.com](http://OPCAAW.com)

Memberships fees are \$30 a year (prorated on a January through December basis) and paid members enjoy the benefits outlined in this brochure.

Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of almost every month in the Bremerton Adventist School Gymnasium:  
**5088 NW Taylor Road  
 Bremerton, Washington**



**Lending Library.**  
 Our Member Lending Library contains an extremely large collection of books, magazines, cassettes, and DVD's.

**Mentoring Program.**  
 The OPCA AW Mentors are a select group of artisans who advise and counsel turners who wish to advance their skillsets. They often assist in the set-up of a shop, acquire new equipment, or develop a specialized subcategory of woodturning (pens, segmented work, etc). Several Mentors also provide formal instruction for a fee.

**Show & Tell.**  
 Perhaps the most inspirational monthly event is our Show & Tell segment, where turners share their work with the group. In a word, the show is "awesome." These are often enhanced by club design contests.

**"Chattermarks" Newsletter.**  
 Members keep abreast of guild activities through our monthly newsletter, sometimes augmented by bulletins. We can also be followed on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/opcaaw)

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**THANKS TO ALL THE PEOPLE** who made extraordinary efforts to bring the County Fair effort together—Louie King, Bill Zupancic, Brad Stave, Tones Briggs and Vern West. We are hopeful that the Fair Passersby will be impressed with what we've done.

And we all should be grateful to these people who are taking the time to sit in the booth this week, talking enthusiastically about woodturning and our guild:

Tones Briggs  
 Jeff Brody  
 Jeff Childs  
 Jim Conway  
 Barb Davis  
 Tony DeCarlo  
 John Elliott  
 Ray Ewing  
 Ron Gates

Jon Geisbush  
 Steve Houser  
 George Kromka  
 Ralph Lindberg  
 Larry Matkins  
 Sandy Swayze  
 Vern West  
 Rob Westcott  
 Ellen Winnie

One name that pops up repeatedly is our venerable Sergeant-at-Arms, Vern. He has really been a go-to guy lately. Not only did he arrange for the Summer Potluck to be held in conjunction with the Kitsap Live Steamers demonstration, but he also patched those nuisance drain holes at the entry to our storeroom, making it easier to move equipment in and out. He contributed all that, coordinated the Fair staff, and found time to manage our monthly snack bar, too. Thanks, Vern!

\* \* \*

**SPEAKING OF PEOPLE STEPPING UP** we have a couple of openings that need filling.

**LIBRARIAN** – When Bob Flynn suddenly picked up and moved back East, Barb Davis volunteered to take over his chores as Glue & Sandpaper Vendor if we can come up with someone to fill her role as club librarian. The good news is that the library – now on a fantastic new cart – is mostly self-service and does not require the librarian to be present at every meeting. See Barb or Russell Neyman if you have an interest.

**VIDEO CREW**—Jeff Childs and Tex Lewis do a great job of “broadcasting” our demonstrations, but they could use a little support in the form of a third technician who can occasionally step in and assist. Contact Jeff if you’re handy with AV stuff and willing to help.

**FAIR STAFFING**—We have one last spot to be filled for the Fair booth. If you can work Sunday from 10 AM to 2 PM, call Vern West at 360-479-8674. You will receive passes to the fair and parking.

\* \* \*



**FIFTY NIFTY SHOP TIPS** was a big success, and we will probably do it again in a year or two, with a different panel of turners, new gadgets, and an expanded collection of tips. We will be sending the printed version to new members (we converted about 120 of the concepts into a 12-page pdf document that can be emailed) along with our new brochure that outlines our various programs.

If you’d like to add a tip of your own or make a comment about the format, send it to [Feedback@OPCAAW.com](mailto:Feedback@OPCAAW.com). For that matter, a comment or suggestion about any guild subject is welcome.

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## **VERN’S SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH**

August safety note will focus on grinding wheels.

Store on edge in a dry location.

Use fiber washers between wheel and the grinder’s flanges.

Never install a wheel if any of the following apply.

Visible damage, Grinder speed is higher than wheels listed safe speed. Wheel does not list a safe speed.

Wheel has been wet when not in operation. Wheel fails ring test.

For anyone who questions the dangers of operating any grinding wheel I recommend watching "Grinder & Abrasive Wheel Gory Safety Training From Safety Videos.com", available on YouTube.

Use all guards provided by your machines manufacturer. Replace missing guards or the entire grinder.

Enjoy woodturning, not medical service providers.

*Vern West*

## THE SUMMER PICNIC MOVES INTO HISTORY

There was a pretty good turnout for the summer picnic that we had at South Kitsap Regional Park, home of the miniature steam trains of the Kitsap Live Steamers. Vern, of course, picked a day that the trains were scheduled to run, and what a beautiful day it was. At least 30 people, maybe 40 or more, enjoyed the George Kromka-grilled traditional burger and dogs, the potluck, the live music, and the incredibly fun ride on the miniature steam train.

The entire potluck was sensational, but the hit of the day was Grace West's Zesty Quinoa Salad. Our thanks to Grace, for her salad and for agreeing to share the recipe.

### Zesty Quinoa Salad

1 cup quinoa  
2 cups water  
1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil  
2 limes, juiced  
2 teaspoons ground cumin  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes, or more to taste  
1 1/2 cups halved cherry tomatoes  
1 (15 ounce) can black beans, drained and rinsed  
5 green onions, finely chopped  
1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro  
Salt and ground black pepper to taste

1. Bring quinoa and water to a boil in a saucepan. Reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer until quinoa is tender and water has been absorbed, 10 to 15 minutes. Set aside to cool.
2. Whisk olive oil, lime juice, cumin, 1 teaspoon salt, and red pepper flakes together in a bowl.
3. Combine quinoa, tomatoes, black beans, and green onions together in a bowl. Pour dressing over quinoa mixture; toss to coat. Stir in cilantro; season with salt and black pepper. Serve immediately or chill in refrigerator.

This salad tastes great right away, and even better the next day when all the flavors have had the chance to marry.

## CHATTERMARKS, MOVING FORWARD

Not an editorial, just a note from the editor

In October of 2012, nomination of officers was announced, for voting on in November. Larry Hamon, then the current Vice President of Public Relations, stated that he would not be able to continue the duties of the office because his job was requiring him to travel, and he would be spending most of the year in Japan. The club needed someone to manage the newsletter and the web site. No nominations were made at that meeting.

I went home and thought about it. I really liked club; it had done a lot for me. I had only been able to find two videos and some older books at the local library, and the club library was fantastic. The glue and sandpaper were such good deals, that I built up a nice little hoard for just a few dollars a month. The wood auction had a lot of woods I had read about and wanted to try. I really liked the web site and newsletter, and it sure would be a shame to see them fall by the wayside.

I was a kind of shy novice hobby turner with a full time job but didn't have much else going on at the time, and I was probably close to being qualified. I have a pretty good feel for sentence structure, and I can spell pretty well. I worked with computers full time, and I had even messed around with the html language in the early days of the internet. On the down side, it would cut into my available turning time. It would probably take a while to learn the job. It can take me a while to study out things, so it would probably take me even longer just to learn. I wanted to retire soon and take up traveling, so I wouldn't be able to do the job for very long. Back to the up side: at least I wouldn't have to get up and talk in front of people.

The next meeting was elections. When the Vice President for Public Relations was announced, Larry said that December would have to be his last month, and he was going to have to let it go. He also said that it only takes him one meeting and a couple of hours a month to get the newsletter out. There was a really loud silence for a really long time while everyone was trying to think of something to say. So I offered the opinion that I thought if circumstances were right, that there was a chance that maybe I could help someone, or help out on occasion, while they looked for someone more suitable, or more qualified, or just more ... better. I was elected 4.72 seconds later.

It has been a rewarding job, but December will be two full years for me, and I'm still looking for my replacement. I'm retired, have CRS and itchy feet. So if you have a little talent, if you can spare a little time to give something back to the guild, if you have some creative juices that just need to flow, if you feel like spouting off in a public forum, or if you would just like to give me a hand, please let me know. My name tag says Larry Matkins, and I usually wear it at the meetings. Or let any of the officers know. Or write to me, [editor@opcaaw.com](mailto:editor@opcaaw.com). The newsletter is a great forum, and the web site is going to be.

## MEETING PLANS IN THE WORKS

On August 27, Don McIvor will be filling us in on finishes for woodturning.

The September 24 meeting is when Tones Briggs shows us how he makes those exquisite Christmas ornaments of his.

For those interested in segmented turning as the next step, Norm Hix will be showing us on October 29.

November 19 (unusual date because of Thanksgiving) a mini-symposium, featuring sharpening.

January 28 looks like the PNW wood artist, Steven Hatcher, will be joining us.

These plans are a little bit fluid always subject to change, of course. A speaker can cancel, or we can come up with a better or timelier topic. Our Training Chairman, Ralph Lindberg, is always looking for ideas and suggestions, and sometimes even volunteers. You can email Ralph at [Training@opcaaw.com](mailto:Training@opcaaw.com).

### AUGUST MEETING

27 August, 6:30 pm,  
Kitsap Adventist School  
5088 NW Taylor Rd.  
Bremerton, WA

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

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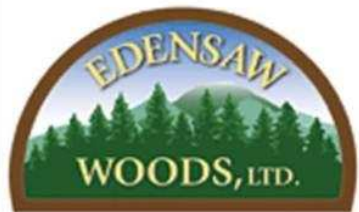
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## MENTORING PROGRAM

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	Barb Davis	(360)373-1858
Librarian		
Video Director	Jeff Childs	(360)765-3954
Cameraman	Tex Lewis	(360)698-3893
Audio Engineer	Stan Stumbo	(206)842-1458
Photographer	Dan Marler	(360)638-2939
Sand Paper and Glue Sales	Bob Flynn	(757)839-5270