

CHATTERMARKS

January 2015
Volume V Issue 1

Michelangelo in Wood

As beginning or even intermediate turners, we sometimes struggle to get just the right line on the shape of that bowl in our lathe. Frustration abounds as we endeavor to get those all too menacing tool marks sanded out before we apply what we hope will be an acceptable finish to our bowl.



magazine articles. He has instructed at five art schools and demonstrates at different symposiums.

Taking a tour of Stephen's web site will surely be a catalyst to your imagination in what possible things can be done with wood and a lathe. Go to



Enter Stephen Hatcher. Stephen will be making a two part presentation on ***Form plus Finishes***. His work is more sculptural than functional and for the "Form" aspect of his talk, he will review basic curves

Stephen Hatcher and proportions.

He will speak to the 'imaginary' curves that are used in designing his woodturned sculpture. All finishes start with excellent sanding, so the "Finishing" aspect of his talk will also address sandpapers and sanding arbors, as well as several finishes including lacquers. Handouts on finishing will be provided for distribution.

Stephen has been woodturning since 1998. His work has been featured in many books and

www.stephenhatcher.com for a preview of the marvelous work that Stephen has produced and then come to the meeting on January 28 to soak up some of the ideas and talent that he offers to our club.



The next meeting will be on

January 28th

6:30 PM

Kitsap Adventist Church

5880 NW

Taylor Rd

Bremerton, WA

Special speaker and demonstration
Stephen Hatcher

Form plus Finishes



Show and Tell, Wood Auction, Sand paper & Glue sales before the meeting

See our web site at
WWW.OPCAAW.com

Redtix & the Xmas Fete.

By Russell Neyman

ABOUT 100 brave souls turned out on a blustery night to share in our annual Woodworkers' Christmas potluck; it was an evening well spent, indeed! We had ample delicious food, a sleigh-full of prizes, and a smattering of woodturning on display. Mostly, we just spent a little time getting to know each other one-on-one.

There's more to this event than meets the eye. Besides the obvious socializing, the party – and the so-called “Red Ticket” prize/gift giveaway – is the culmination of a year-long effort to encourage full participation in all of our events as well as our largest fund-raising program.

For those of you who aren't familiar, allow me to explain:

Each month, at the OPCAOW meeting sign-in station, members are given red tickets for their participation in specific club activities. These include:

- Bringing wood for our wood auction,
- Attending a meeting and/or bringing a guest,
- Bringing something for our Show & Tell,
- Hosting an Open Shop event,
- Wearing a hand-made name tag,
- We occasionally award tickets for other programs, such as the Tops for Kids.

The tickets are marked with the members' names, placed in a bowl, and saved until the December party. (Consider saving those return addresses sent to you with donation solicitations to use on the tickets. That way Cindy won't have to work so hard deciphering the name.) Then, the tickets are drawn randomly to determine the winners of prizes that are purchased by the club and/or donated by sponsors.

It's the income from the wood auction that makes up half of our annual budget, money that pays for the speakers and workshops. It's a difference-maker, believe me. Thanks to the bowl blanks and exotic wood brought in by the members, we can keep

our membership dues at an extremely low \$30 a year.

(Allow me to interject this brief note: the term of membership runs January through December, and dues should be paid now. Please mail them in to the Post Office Box listed at the top of this newsletter or pay dues at the sign in desk at this month's meeting. Checks should be made payable to OPCAOW.)

Most of you are keenly aware how critical it is for donors to bring pieces for our auction and actively participate. The wood does not magically appear for people to pick through and purchase at bargain prices; it's donated by thoughtful members who support the art of woodturning. Make no mistake about it: the wood auction is a critical component of our club's success.

It's surprising how easy it is to find auction-worthy things. When you harvest a nice tree simply set aside some of the extra wood for us to sell, or cull your wood shed for something that you've kept for years and realize that you'll never get around to turning. Old equipment is welcome, too. When you upgrade your grinder or bowl gouge, consider bringing the old one to the meeting.

And there's the other end of that transaction to consider: purchasing some of this wood at a discount price helps pay for our demonstrations and equipment, too! So, consider using OPCAOW as a “supplier” for some of your raw materials. It benefits everyone.

The “redtix” game also rewards those who participate in the Show & Tell. When you think about it, that table is the end result of *everything* we do—all the demonstrations, all the discussions, all of the mentoring and all of the concepts offered through various media, shows up on that table to be inspected, admired, critiqued, and understood. More is learned in those moments than at any other time we meet to share woodturning.

So the idea behind the party is to thank all of you for making everything work and, hopefully, reward the frequent donors with

Apple and Cherry wood from a dying orchard for sale. Various diameters and lengths. Contact Erin Smith at Smithshyre in Poulsbo.

[thesmithshyre@gmail](mailto:thesmithshyre@gmail.com)

[.com](http://thesmithshyre.com)

360-271-0679



Itty Bitty Show

Application deadline
January 24,
2015

Application and info -
gigharbor-galleryrow.com

Show dates
-
Mar 12-Apr
15, 2015

something they can take home and appreciate.

Postscript: A special shout out goes to the people who made this last party such a success: Cindy Allen, Vern and Grace West, Peter Gerstel, George Kromka, Ellen Winnie and many, many others. Thanks!!



Tall, thin goblets were demonstrated by Alan Carter about a year ago as part of our demo series. --Photo by J Louis

>> A full-blown sawdust session has been slated for Sunday, March 1st at our meeting site beginning at 9:30 am, with as many as six lathes in operation simultaneously. They will be manned by our club mentors and more experienced turners.

>> A special election for the office of Treasurer will be held at our January meeting, and at this point we have one candidate: Jon Geisbush. Jon would certainly be a welcome addition to the club's leadership crew, but if there are other nominees, please send that information to Feedback@OPCAAW.com. Besides maintaining the profit/loss statement and writing checks, the treasurer attends the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors, advising the club on budgetary matters.

Members who wish to observe our meetings are always welcome to sit in, and – except to extremely infrequent matters handled in executive session – everything is open for public consumption. We meet two weeks prior to every general meeting at a location that rotates throughout Western Puget Sound.—RN

The new “Acting” VP of Training, Jimmie Allen, is organizing the event. He's a strong advocate of this sort of live teaching of the craft, we can expect to see lively discussions and top-notch techniques.

These hands-on events are, without a doubt, the best way for a novice or intermediate woodturner to elevate their skills. There is no charge for current members who have paid their dues. Some wood will be donated by the club, but participants are encouraged to bring blanks they'd like to turn.

The mentors will probably begin with a specific type of turning (eg, working with a skew, turning the inside of a bowl, polishing wood, etc) but will be willing to take the discussion in any direction the audience wants to go. So if there's a type of woodturning that you'd particularly like to see done, speak up!

Jimmie can be reached by phone at 360-373-3041.—RN



Coming Up!

Later in the Spring, our group will sponsor a **Tool Swap** where members and non-members can bring their excess tools to sell to others.

Proceeds to the club will go towards the “Camera Fund” which will enhance the educational abilities at our meetings.

Watch this space and your web site for more information.



April 11-12 the 18th annual Wood Fest will be held in Sedro-Woolley. See their web site at Sedro-woolley.com or call 360-855-1841.

May 14-16 is the 36th Utah Woodturning Symposium at Utah Valley University in Orem, UT. For information, see

Utahwoodturning.com or 801-471-0758.

Mar 14 Pacific Northwest Tool Collectors at Alki Masonic Hall in Seattle, WA. Contact Bill Racine at 503-628-1488.

Rockler Woodworking has ongoing wood working demonstrations at their two Seattle stores. For a list of topics, call 206-634-3222 for the Northgate Way store or 206-244-9161 for the Tukwila store.

>> There was a shuffle of our staff positions recently. Barb Davis, who has done a wonderful job of upgrading and organizing our library, has moved over to the Glue & Sandpaper desk, replacing Bob Flynn, who is in the process of moving to North Carolina. Jim McFarland has taken over the duties of librarian.

>> The video camera upgrade is moving forward, despite the fact that we still have a shortfall between what we need to purchase and what we have budgeted for equipment purchases.

Crew lead Jeff Childs is beginning to identify the best deals on cameras and accompanying switching equipment, spending countless hours on researching the latest technology. It would be nice to locate some better lights, too. We will continue to pass the hat until we collect the necessary funds.

Once in place, the new system should dramatically improve the image quality on our demonstration monitors. It would also give us the ability to eventually record and post these sessions so as to be an ongoing learning tool. - RN
(See the 'Hat' on page 5)

Coming in April

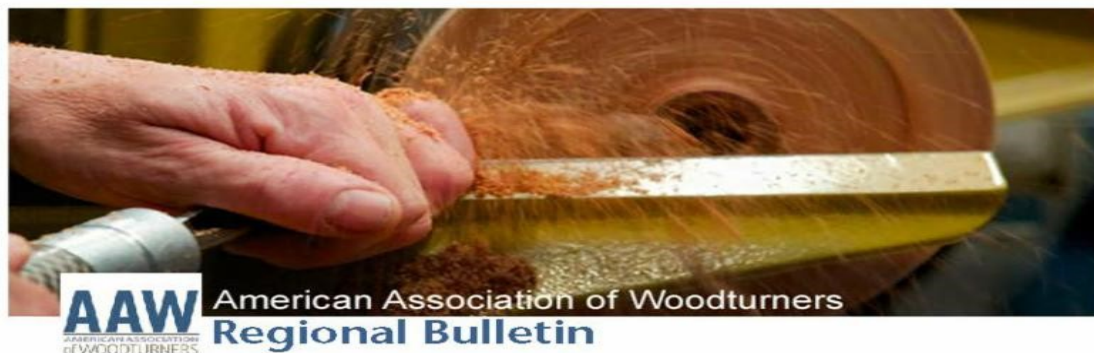
A load of Madrone and Maple Burl will be at Dave Schwietzer's place.

Date is not yet set, but it will be on a Saturday in early April.

Ralph Linberg will be handling the sign-up list. See him to place your order.

Price will be \$1.25/lb for either type of wood.

Remember - Order what you want, only pickup what you order, and don't forget to pickup what you order.



Oregon Woodturning Symposium will be held **March 6-8, 2015** in Albany, OR. We invite you to join us and share in this 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 cover 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. Accessing the website - 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 our website.

Your early registration will help us better plan for this event. If you have any questions please feel welcome to call.

Terry Gerros, President **503-580-5013**
gerrost@yahoo.com

Some highlighted events include -

- A Gallery where you can display for sale or display only, up to 3 items. A 10% sales commission applies.
- A Banquet will be held on Saturday evening with extra tickets available for guests.
- A varied compliment of tool and wood sales booths plus associated vendors.

A change of guard

-By Jim Conway

Allow me to introduce myself. I am your new VP of Public Relations. Fancy name. Just means I'm now in charge of writing your monthly newsletter.



As you might have noted, the format has changed some as we migrate from Word to Publisher—another Microsoft program designed for doing things like newsletters. As with most things, there's a learning curve and I should expect to be stumbling a little as this publication evolves. Your patience as well as your input will be greatly appreciated.

I moved here (to Port Townsend) from West Texas. Hence the ubiquitous cowboy hat you see me wearing. In El Paso, it served to keep the sun from baking my face too badly. You remember 'sun',

don't you? If not, it will be back in July. Now the hat serves more as an aid to my wife to find me in the airport.

I took up bowl turning after taking a class by Bonnie Klein at Ft. Worden. Great intro class. I was pumped! I was ready to turn my forest into bowls. I spent the first year trying to collect the best equipment that I could without bankrupting myself. I finally decided that was slow torture and began spending what was needed to get what was needed. It seems to have had a positive effect as I'm finally turning out things that I can be proud of.

Since I'm a newbie to this turning thing, much of my focus in the newsletter will probably be geared to the newer turner. Safety tips, turning tips, and design ideas. Not that I can come up with all of the good information—so I would like to invite all of you to share, like you do so often, what you have come to learn from all the time you have spent standing in front of whirling wood with a sharp tool in your hand. —JTC

Watch for the Hat!

As you know, your Board of Directors, and specifically Jeff Childs, are researching ways to upgrade our video system so that



you, the member, will get the most out of each meeting. Our equipment is old and not light sensitive enough to give us the best quality picture on our monitors.

So Jeff is on the hunt for better, new camera technology; better lighting; switches to enhance and streamline movement from one camera to another; and a projector that can be used for powerpoint presentations the demonstrator might use to better describe his technique or equipment.

What can you do?!? If you know of any high quality cameras or lighting equipment available, contact Jeff or one of the Board members so that we can investigate it.

What if you don't know of any equipment? Then watch for **The Hat**. From time to time when we gather as a group, the Hat will be available for your donations. We have made great progress towards our camera budget, but are still short of what we think we'll need. Any and all moneys that you can spare towards the video budget will be greatly appreciated and enhance our presentations.

Of course, if you ever see this hat, →

it will always be available to accept donations.



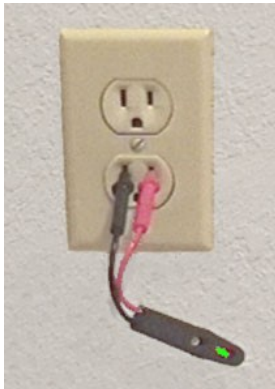
Vern's Safety corner



Electrical grounding....

Do your outlets have grounds? Have you checked that they actually work? Some grounds are substandard and others are figments of some ones imagination.

Make it is worth your time to check each and every one. If, like me, you can't remember when they were last checked. Add this to the top of your 'to do' list. I plan to include it on mine.



In fact— ask me if I have completed the tests when you see me next.—VW

Editor's Note—If you go to the web site "acmehowto.com/" or search the web with "How to test and electrical outlet for a ground" you will get the following information-

(which I paraphrase here) —

Here's how you do it— Go buy one of these little doobies like in the picture. They're cheap. Your hardware store has them.

If the outlet is wired 'correctly' - big assumption in some cases—the wide flat hole will be the neutral and the smaller flat one is the "hot" side. Stick the tester in the outlet as shown. If it lights up, you have power.

Next move the probe from the wide hole to the round one at the bottom. If it lights up, you have a ground. Good.

If it does not light up, move the probe from the narrow socket to the wide one. If it lights up, your outlet is wired backwards—BUT you have a **ground** and that's good!

Test both outlets as they can be wired separately, which means they could be wired differently.

If you find a problem with an outlet—and you should be testing all of them—the next step is to correct the problems. If this has now passed your level of expertise, then it's time to call a pro. Don't use this as an opportunity to have a self-teaching session.

Electricity is a powerful and unseen force. Use it correctly and it will serve you well. Ignore its potential threat and you might learn a valuable but painful lesson.—JTC

[From <http://www.acmehowto.com/electrical/grounding.php>]



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MENTORING PROGRAM

We are always looking for 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) 479-5501
Bob Hickernell	Bremerton	(360) 479-5501
Brad Stave bstave@comcast.net	Gig Harbor	(253) 514-8562

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VP of Public Relations	Jim Conway	(360) 531-0168	PublicRelations@opcaaw.com
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VP of Membership	Schuyler Beaver	(360) 698-4108	Membership@OPCAAW.com
Secretary	Peter Gerstel	(360) 697-6150	Secretary@OPCAAW.com
Treasurer	Jon Geibush Interim until election	(360) 297-1773	Treasurer@OPCAAW.com
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Cameraman	Tex Lewis	(360) 698-3893
Audio	Stan Stumbo	(206) 842-1458
Photographer	J. Louis King	(206) 714-2324
Sand Paper & Glue Sales	Barb Davis	(360) 373-1858