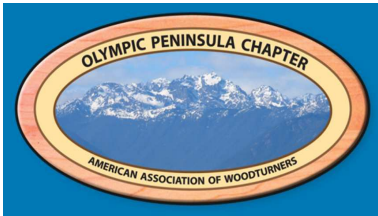


March 2015



# CHATTERMARKS



The eNewsletter for Woodturners of Western Puget Sound.

## BURN, BABY, BURN!!

Sometimes when you're struggling with that particular piece on your lathe, you reach a point where, in your frustration, you are ready to rip it off the chuck and toss it into the wood stove. A just result for an obstinate and uncooperative hunk of wood.

Then you run into someone like **Molly Winton** who regularly sets a perfectly good and beautiful turning on fire. Are you nuts?!?! Not if you do it like Molly.



A Homie, raised in Edmonds, Molly dabbled in pottery with her sister for about six years. There, she learned the importance of aesthetics and design in three dimensional art work.

Eventually, her husband gifted her a lathe which was set up in their wood shop. After taking an introductory class in turning, Molly was hooked. Something that more than a few of us can relate to. Not having the time to be a production turner, she chose the route of one-of-a-kind art pieces that would stand out to the buying public.



She was inspired by a talk by Graeme Priddle to find inspiration and enhance her turnings using that which was passion in her life. For Molly that passion is Native American and Pre-historic Art, which you can see in the body of her work. She has been fascinated by the petroglyphs of the Northwest as well as the cave art of Lascaux, France and Altamira, Spain.

In a workshop taught by Priddle in Seattle, Molly learned to use nichrome wire to create brands that would texture her bowls and vessels with her in a basket weave pattern that she uses today.

Join us for what should be a smokin' fun evening of Pyrography and artistic enhancements. -JTC

Next Meeting

6:30 PM  
Social Time  
6:00 PM

March 25,  
2015

Kitsap  
Adventist Church  
5880 NW  
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Special  
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Molly Winton  
Pyrography



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# The Information Age

By Russell Neyman

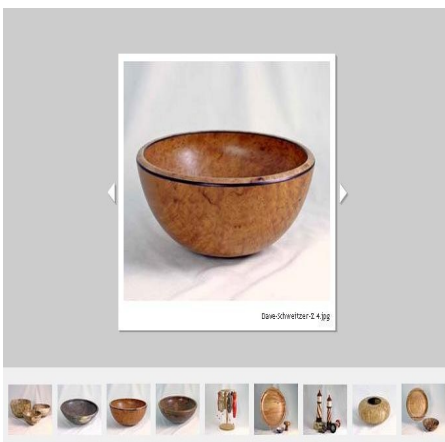
It goes without saying that communication is critical to the effectiveness of any organization the size of ours, and we've been working to do a better job of that for more than a year. Perhaps you've noticed.

The advent of internet and computer technology is bittersweet, isn't it? I am reminded of a line from the classic film, "Inherit the Wind," where the Spencer Tracy character argues, "We can fly across our great nation in a day but somehow the birds have lost a bit of their majesty." That goes for what we do, too. We love the fact that ours is a craft that produces one-off, hand made pieces of art, but we rely heavily on the high-tech world to be organized.

We have several vehicles that we use to spread the word: our electronic newsletter, CHATTERMARKS; the website, OPCAOW.com; and the first portion of our club meetings, when we make general announcements. Occasionally, we'll send out a bulletin-type notice through email, too. And for the handful of people who can't/won't accept electronic media, we even send out notices through snail mail.

When Jim Conway was added to the board of directors this last December as Vice President of Public Relations, his predecessor, Larry Matkins, asked if he could stay on to become webmaster, allowing Jim to concentrate his efforts on the newsletter and relations with the outside media. Obviously, we were delighted to have him stay on.

So, if you peek at the website today, you'll



Our web site has many features including a photo gallery like this.

see all sorts of changes, both big and little. Larry has worked diligently to make it a resource for wood turners, adding dozens of reference links, club handouts, and news

about wood turners throughout the Puget Sound region. Of course, all of the back issues of CHATTERMARKS can be found there, too, as well as photographs of our members' turnings.

You'd be smart to visit the site and see what is available.

(While I'm on the subject of photos of bowls and other turned projects, Larry will be happy to post photographs of your work on the website's Gallery section. Either email scanned images to him, or put them on a flash drive and bring that to the next meeting.)

Later this year we will ask the membership to amend the OPCAOW Bylaws so that Webmaster is added to the Board of Directors.

Meanwhile, Jim Conway has also been very busy streamlining the newsletter. In the past, we used a cumbersome system of formatting CHATTERMARKS, but Jim now uses Microsoft Publisher, which should make production quicker and easier, freeing him to do more creative writing. He has a playful style and writes with clarity.

(OK, he has gone a bit overboard with the hearts and shamrocks, but in time it will once again look like a "normal" publication.) [Hey! All those who LIKE shamrocks and such, stand up and be counted! ! -JTC]

There are many things we could add to the newsletter that might help all of you to improve your working environment and woodturning skills. Already you have seen increased use of photographs and a more stylized way of presenting regular features. We have discussed the possibility of a Classified section, where club members can post items for sale and make announcements. Member profiles are also a possibility, as are guest columns and reprints.

We have also made a point to do a better job of letting you know what's going on at the beginning of our monthly meetings. Yes, that steals a few minutes away from our other live presentations, but it also gives us face-to-face interaction. We've noticed a marked enthusiasm in the room this past year; people are willing to speak up and speak their minds. That's a good thing.

\* \* \*

**I SEE THE INTERNET** as a tool that can help me am a better turner. I use several



## Your Club Library

Has lots of magazines on wood working and turning.

Take'm, Keep'em, or Bring'em back. They are there for your use.

websites to solve technical issues and to discuss new techniques. I thought I'd share a few of those:

**SawmillCreek.org** – This is actually a wide-ranging woodworker's forum, but the Turners page is easily the most popular. I discovered it when I needed help repairing my lathe years ago, joined in on a few discussions, and am now a regular contributor. You must sign up to participate, but it is free. No, you won't get spammed to death.

**AAWForum.org** – The American Association of Woodturners, of which so many of us are members, is affiliated with our club and we are, in fact, a chapter of that group. No, paying your local dues does not make you a member of the national organization. Membership a number of benefits, including six issues of a printed magazine, six electronic editions, and use of the forum.

**Woodturners From Around the Globe** (Facebook) – Besides our own FB entries, I have found joining this group tremendously inspiring. Both advanced and novice wood turners post pictures of their projects and receive immediate feedback. It's free of charge, of course, but I believe you need to get approval to join. They're pretty careful to weed out the spammers and hucksters, so expect them to ask you to jump through a hoop or two.

**Olympic Peninsula Chapter - American Association of Woodturners** (also Facebook) – Same deal as the Globe people, but easier to join and smaller. I'd like to see more of you post photos of the great stuff you do, and I think you might be surprised to see how often you can get immediate advice on something that challenges you in your shop. Using your smart phone, snap a photo, post it, and wait for a response. It's free, and I am the de-facto moderator, so I'll be sure to add you as a member of the group quickly.

**YouTube.com** – There is probably no woodturning technique, piece of equipment, or product that relates to our craft that can't be found by doing a YouTube search. And you'll see some of our friends there, too—Dave Schweitzer, Robo Hippy, Capt Eddie, etc.

\* \* \*

**WE ARE VERY CLOSE.** to unveiling our new high definition video system, and appreciate everyone's patience during the research process. No, we haven't quite raised all the funds needed, but we borrowed from the club funds to

complete the assignment. The multi-camera mixer has arrived and the cameras have been ordered. We will probably need to pass the hat one or two more times to cover all costs.

We have initiated a series of club raffles to help fund the system. I don't want to steal the thunder from an article elsewhere in this edition of CHATTERMARKS, but any time you can pick up a three-piece set of D-Way tools for a five dollar ticket, you need to jump at that. Same thing with next month's item, a Delta air filtration system.

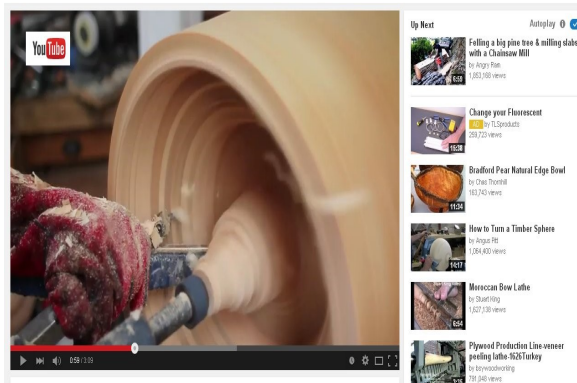
I suppose we'll have the old cameras for sale when the transition is complete.

\* \* \*

**MEMBER DANIEL CAVE** approached me two weeks ago, offering to donate his Jet 14-42 lathe to the club. We may add it to our club lathes for demonstrations, or may put it up for sale. Daniel says it will probably need some cleaning and minor overhaul (replace the belt) so I'm looking for one or two volunteers to tackle that project.

By the way, that's the same lathe I use in my own shop, so I can serve as technical advisor and, if necessary, train the new owner on its features.

Another subject Daniel brought up was the idea of donating funerary urns for deceased soldiers who do not have a family. What a wonderful idea! We're in the process of investigating, and will keep you posted as things develop. --RN



*A great resource for free videos of virtually any woodturning topic can be found on YouTube.com*



## **Election Time**

The election of the first vice president will be held during the business meeting at the March 25th meeting. Besides being the primary backup to the president, should he/she be absent, the first VP is charged with providing the membership with all of the demonstrators and presenters that we enjoy each month. For the past couple of months, Jimmie Allen has filled in as 'acting' VP, pulling from his seven years experience at the slot.

Brad Stave was nominated and seconded from the floor at the February meeting. If anyone would like to nominate another person for the consideration of the membership, please be ready to do so when the meeting begins.



## **Fund Raising**

As you may be well aware of, the club is trying to upgrade its video equipment by purchasing two new cameras and a new switcher. None of it cheap, though the board feels that the dividends paid to the members in being able to better see the presentations will be worth all the time and effort that will go into it. We have passed the hat—and will continue to do so. And we are now having a series of raffles of items donated by members for the benefit of our video fund drive.

## **RAFFLE #1**

Two D-Way gouges and one handle. The two gouges are 1/2" bowl gouges. One with a fingernail grind and the other with a "bottom feeder" grind. The total value of the set of gouges is over \$200. Tickets are \$5 each AND you do not have to be present to win. Ticket sales began at the February meeting and will continue until after Show and Tell at the March meeting. The drawing will be just prior to our March presentation by Molly Winton.

## **RAFFLE #2**

During the March meeting, tickets will be available for our second raffle, which is a Delta Air Filtration system donated by Norm Hix. Briefly, the system, although 10 years old, is in good condition.

It has a 1-1/2 hp motor that is currently set for 240v but easily convertible to 120v. Last year the top bag was replaced with a pleated filter by Wynn Environmental. The filter alone was over \$200. Also included are an assortment of gates, connectors, hoses, clamps and PVC fittings.

All in all, Norm estimates the value of the system at \$300 to \$400. A new 1-1/2 hp Delta or Jet air filter will start at over \$500. This complete system could be YOURS for a mere \$5.00 ticket! (see photo—below)



Raffle #2—Delta Air Filtration system + parts and fittings

## ***Vern's Safety Corner***



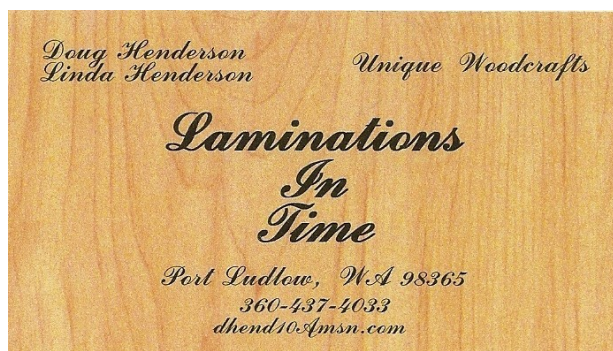
Grinder rests ... If you are using a grinder rest (and you should be) it works best and is safer if you keep it close but not touching the wheel. After each wheel dressing take a few seconds to evaluate whether you should adjust the position of the guard. I keep my guard close enough that a nickel will not pass through the gap. Please work and play safe. -VW

When working in a shop, Always ask yourself, "What's the worst thing that could happen right now?" Proceed if it's safe. -JTC



## ***Don't Forget***

Take your ID badge with you when you visit one of our sponsors and ask for your club discount.

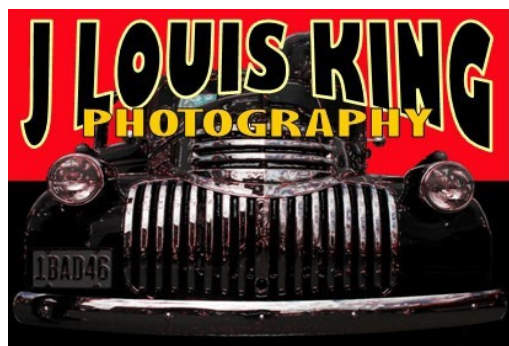


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## Club Contest

At the last meeting, Russell Neyman announced a club contest for the March meeting. Make an Awl, Knife or Tool handle and bring it to the March meeting. Winners will be announced during the meeting. All entries must have a ferrule and the knife should be the type used for wood working. Tool handles can be permanent or the type used for interchangeable gouges. But it must have a ferrule. (Yeah, OK, I said that before)



206-714-2324 [JLouisKing@Gmail.com](mailto:JLouisKing@Gmail.com)

## Did you notice?!?!?

If you've gotten this far into the newsletter, hopefully you have noticed changes that have happened, not only here but to the web site, too.

I'll keep saying this until you are sick of hearing it. This is YOUR newsletter! It's the place where we exchange information and ideas. Your input is needed and appreciated. Send anything you have or suggestions of how to do it better to either "editor" or "webmaster" @OPCAAW.com.

You'll also notice that there have been Bulletins sent out between newsletters as reminders to events and information to things that can't wait for the newsletter. -JTC



John Elliot demonstrating at the Sawdust Session-

## Face Book Photos

Go to the club Face Book Page to see more photos and comments about the sawdust session that we had on March 1, 2015.



## Parking Lot Lights

Daylight Savings is helping when we arrive at our meetings, but we want to make sure that the parking lot is well lit and safe. If you notice that the parking lot lights are NOT on, please advise Barb Davis at the glue and sand paper station.

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## Upcoming Events in the area

### Wood Turners of Olympia

Announce "Creativity in Wood Turning Symposium". Featuring **Richard Raffan**, Saturday July 25, 2015 in Lacey, WA. Other Workshops will be held July 26-29 and August 1-2, 2015 with Richard. Find all of the information and registration materials at their web site—[Woodturnersofolympia.org](http://Woodturnersofolympia.org).

### Gathering of the Guilds

The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers is inviting all wood artisans to the Gathering of the Guilds on April 24-26, 2015 in Portland, OR. Billed as the single largest craft fair under one roof anywhere in the country. Professionals can purchase a 10'x10' booth and amateurs can show work for sale in the Guild booth. For information contact Ariel Enriquez 503-286-4828 or [arielphyllis@gmail.com](mailto:arielphyllis@gmail.com).



### Burl Sales and Pick up

Don't forget to pick up the Madrone and Maple Burl that you ordered.

Pick up will be at Dave Schweitzer's  
3661 E Pickering,  
Shelton, WA

More info—call  
Ralph  
360-460-4924

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# The Mentoring Program

The OPCA AW Mentors are an select group of artisans and professionals who we have designated to promote, encourage, and guide novice and intermediate woodturners within our organization. Mentors provide counsel on subjects like shop setup, equipment purchase, safety, wood preparation and specialized skills. These are some friendly folks willing to give you a point in the right direction.

While not actually a formal training programs, meetings with mentors often become just that. In some cases, advanced formal instruction is available for an hourly rate.

The current mentors are:

**Dan Ackerman** (Brinnon) 360-796-4155  
**Tones Briggs** (Port Orchard) 360-271-6448  
**Bob Hickernell** (Bremerton) 360-497-5501  
**George Kromka** (Bremerton) 360-373-1028  
**Jim Leary** (Kingston) 360-297-5872  
**Jim McFarland** (Shelton) 903-352-9807  
**Brad Stave** (Gig Harbor) 253-514-8562

bstave@comcast.net

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**Barbara Davis**, Glue & Sandpaper Sales

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**Larry Matkins** Web Master 360-551-1044

Webmaster@OPCA AW

For All Staff email Staff@OPCA AW.com

**"If you don't  
blow up a  
bowl every  
now and  
then,  
you aren't  
trying hard  
enough."**

**-- Dick Raffin,  
Master  
Woodturner**

