



# CHATTERMARKS

The eNewsletter for Woodturners of Western Puget Sound.

## HOLLOW Form

It's usually interesting to ask "why" when talking to someone who has migrated to the Northwest from somewhere else. Whether chased from the deserts of West Texas, Tornado Alley in Oklahoma or the hurricanes of the Gulf, we have all found our way here, to a more pleasant place. Such is the story of this month's presenter, **Bob Hickernell**, sometimes known as 'Hinkey', who will be speaking this month on *Hollow Forms*.

It was the winter of '62 and a brisk minus 20 degrees outside in northwest Pennsylvania, when Bob, with a smile on his face, drove away from his home and headed towards California. He began a 30-year career in Southern California in marketing in the Defense Electronics industry. As a graduate of Cornell University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering, it's interesting that he chose a career in marketing. But then we all have strange stories of evolution like that.

After 30 years in the land of Fruits and Nuts, Bob and his wife, Natalie, moved to the Northwest. Here he returned to an old interest and aptitude in art, having received training in pastels and watercolors in his youth.

Although he considers wood turning a hobby, Bob currently exhibits in three galleries and



in 2009 was selected, along with 26 other turners, to participate in the Northwest Woodturning Invitational in Moscow, ID. Go Bob!

In Bob's 'Artist Statement', he says that he 'turns wood at the lathe because he enjoys it.' One would say to do otherwise is sometimes called "work". He also refers to the dual roll of wood turning as being both 'Art' and 'Craft'. The Art portion is to emphasize a natural shape that invites the piece to be held, and whose simplicity of design does not detract from the beauty of the wood. The Craft is possessing the skills to accomplish this goal.

Join Bob at this month's meeting as he relates his experiences and knowledge in the field of Hollow Forms. He will touch on the basic approach to the hollow form, techniques in hollowing as well as preferred tools; and possibly some information about the Tan-tung-G cutter material. It should be a great demo.



Next meeting

August 26, 2015

Social time-

6:00 PM

Meeting -

6:30 PM

Kitsap

Adventist

School

5880 NW

Taylor Rd

Bremerton,

WA

Special Speaker

and

demonstration

Bob

'Hinkey'

Hickernell

Pre-demonstration

activities -

Show and Tell,

Wood Auction,

Sand paper &

Glue sales.

See our web

site at

OPCAAW.COM

# It's Showtime!

By Russell Neyman

**F**OR MANY WOODTURNERS, this is the busy season. From now through Christmas, we're busy showing our work at various craft shows and gallery exhibitions as we gear up for the holiday rush. Our club is on display, too, with no less than four major events within the span of three months.

We kicked things off with a live demonstration in mid-August at the Olalla Bluegrass Festival. And Boy! Was that fun! There's something captivating about actually seeing a craftsman whack away at a hunk of raw wood with a sharp tool, whittling it away until only a shaped object is left. And the crowd loved it, too. At one point about two dozen people gathered around our small 100-square-foot booth to watch. Read more later in the newsletter.

The Festival organizers took note of the interest from the crowd, too, and have already invited us back next year.

**WE'RE DOING A SIMILAR** live demonstration at the 2015 Kitsap County Fair. Those who will be there – **Vern West, George Kromka, Jon Geisbush** and a host of others – can expect a similar crowd response. Besides the hands-on participation with a working lathe, we'll also be displaying an assortment of bowls and turnings by our members. This sort of event promotes the craft and recruits new members. It's also a good way to develop friendships between individual members of the club.

The Fair is August 26th through the 30th at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds. All of the shifts are minimally covered, but we can always use more people who are excited to share their woodturning experiences and tell others about our club. If you'd like to join the effort or display your work, contact Vern at 360-479-8634.

Then, in late September, **Dave Schweitzer** and **Brad Stave** take their wealth of experience to the Washington State Fair, representing the Olympic Peninsula Woodturners in a featured two-hour demonstration. That's quite an honor, both for these two veteran artists and our club.

**OPCAAW CELEBRATES** our 25th Year as a chapter of the American Association of Woodturners at our October General Meeting on the 28th, and it promises to be a gala event. We are, after all, one of the oldest and largest AAW Chapters in the nation, and it's my belief that we have some of the finest woodturners in the nation.

Our featured speaker (in lieu of a live demonstration) will be **Wally Dickerman**, who has been turning for more than 72 years. He will share his personal experiences and make note of the many changes that have occurred in the craft during his lifetime.

## Other Notes

**A RECONDITIONED JET 12-36** will be auctioned at the September meeting to the highest bidder. It's a beauty. It's mounted on a homemade wooden stand, and a group of members gave it a tune up, painted it, and added a steady rest.

The lathe has a bowl capacity of 12 inches, but also has a pivoting headstock to facilitate larger turnings. It can turn spindle work up to 34.5 inches (baseball bat size) and has a Reeves variable speed control. It purrs like a kitten.

The lathe was donated by member **Jeff Brody**, who recently purchased a new monster lathe and didn't need this one any longer. He also donated a slow speed Grizzly sharpening station, which we'll probably auction off, too. This has a wetstone system as well as a coarse grinding wheel.

The proceeds from these items and other items donated recently are earmarked for the Video System Upgrade.

**OUR NEXT RAFFLE ITEM** will be a CBN wheel donated by Dave Schweitzer and D-Way Tools. It is a lightly used demonstration unit still in the original box. Tickets will go on sale for \$5 each at the August and September meetings, and the winner need not be present to collect.

Stay tuned. –RN



Writer's Block is a terrible thing that can strike at the most inopportune moments—like when the editor is waiting for you column—Ed

**IF YOU WANT TO** stock up on high quality bowl, pen, and craft blanks, bring your checkbook to the next few meetings. The Board of Directors expects that the quantity and quality of items shown at the coming wood auctions to take a marked leap forward, thanks to the efforts of a few individuals who realized that the selection offered needed a shot of energy.

This isn't saying that we don't want the regular group of donors to bring in their items; we do. But we also realize that our club's membership needs a wider range of blanks for a wide range of turning projects. We believe the steps we've taken will fill in the gap between pen blanks and large bowls. Expect to see high grade, medium-sized blanks.

Let's take a minute to consider the monthly wood auction and what it means to us. Members sort through their stock and bring in things that might be of interest to others. These might be a species that the donor has plenty of, or simply a shape or type that doesn't interest them. We auction it off to the highest bidder, more often than not for a fraction of what a retail store or blank dealer would sell it for.

This is a critical component of our annual revenues. In effect, the proceeds from the wood our membership donates and buys pays for the speakers. Yes, we want you to leave with quality wood at a discounted price, but we also need to generate income to pay club expenses. Yes, it's a wood auction, but it's also a fundraiser for the club.

In any case, we've taken steps to stimulate a higher grade of wood available, and we ask that you consider using the club as a source for your next project, as well as a recipient of your charitable donations.

**AS WE ENTER THE FINAL MONTHS** of 2015 we also need to think about the makeup of the Board of Directors for next year. We informally ask each officer to declare his intentions about this time, which gives us an indication of which positions – there are eight – that might need filling.

There will probably be a minor shuffle of positions this year, with one long-serving Board Member (Secretary Pete Gerstel) moving on and another taking over his po-

sition. The bottom line is we will be looking for a Sergeant-at-Arms, the person responsible for setting up the meeting hall and maintaining the snack stand.

The other offices which will be up for consideration are:

- President – Presides over the monthly meeting as well as the Board of Directors business meetings.
- First Vice President – Organizes the club's demonstrations and educational programs
- Second Vice President – Handles the newsletter and all publicity.
- Vice President of Membership – Manages the rosters and facilitates enrollment.
- Treasurer – Oversees the club finances.
- Secretary – Records the club activities and handles all official correspondence.
- Past President – Sits in on an advisory capacity.
- Webmaster – Currently, this is an unofficial, non-voting position. See the article, below.

If you are interested or would like to nominate somebody for any of the board positions, please send a note to PRESIDENT@opcaaw.com

**PART AND PARCEL** of the General Election that will take place in November are several amendments to our Bylaws. The Board of Directors is suggesting that these two changes be made:

A new Board Position, that of Vice President of Electronic Media, be added as a voting member. This individual will serve as webmaster for our website and manage our social media pages (Facebook, etc.).

The position of Past President becomes a non-voting position.

There may be other minor changes to the OPCAOW Bylaws (e.g., clarification of the date of the election, the dues structures, etc.) but these are considered minor details. A complete revised document will be posted on our website and made available at the September and October meetings for member perusal. –RN

“The wood auction is a critical component of our annual revenues. Yes, we want you to leave with quality wood at a discounted price, but it's also a fundraiser for the club.”





## A Wh-Olalla Fun

Last weekend was the Olalla Bluegrass Festival in a community nestled between Gig Harbor and Port Orchard. Never heard of it? Well plenty of people have since they are celebrating their 24th anniversary of the one day event.

Your club's board decided that it would be a great opportunity to expose more of the peninsula to what we



*The Blackberry Bushes play at the Bluegrass Festival.*

do. We had a booth, a lathe and electricity. The rest was fun. Quite a few festival attendees



*Morgan Kellington showing her prowess with a round nosed scraper.*

stopped by to see what all the commotion was about, ask questions, and sign up for more information, like a copy of this newsletter. Troy Kellington's daughter, Morgan, even gave a go at turning bowls and did a remarkable job for a first timer. As spectators gathered to watch, Russell Neyman would whip out some quickly turned and finished item that someone in the audience could walk away with. While working on a small goblet, Russell had the thing catch and go careening across the back of the booth. Undaunted, he took the stub and turned a miniature of what he

had intended to do in the first place.

Always, there was someone there, if not a crowd, wanting to know more about turning. It was a pleasure to fill them in on our passion and the benefits of the club. Of course it's always a bit of show to be able to take a hunk of wood and transform it into something useful or artistic. The oohs and ahhs abounded.

Again, like last year, the club will have a presence at the **Kitsap County Fair**, August 26-30. We not only expanded the awareness of our club beyond its current boundaries, but managed to pick up several new members. Our display had many and varied items from many of our members to show the public what was possible in practical as well as artistic turnings.

If you did not sign up for a 'tour of duty' at the fair, don't let that stop you. Drop by the exhibit and lend a hand at talking about what it is that impassions you. A side benefit is a chance to meet a new member of the club that you had not had the opportunity to talk to before. It's always interesting to peel a layer of the onion back and discover someone that you might have more in common with than just turning. —JTC



*The lathe we used & to be auctioned.*

Do a favor to the Club and a friend – print out this newsletter and pass it on.—Ed.

*The lathe to the left will be auctioned off at the September 30th General Meeting.*



# Calendar of events, shows, classes and other things

## 2015

August 26-30 - Kitsap County Fair	Three day booth with show and tell and club info
August 26—Monthly meeting	Bob “Hinkey” Hickernell—Hollow forms
September 30—Monthly meeting	Sawdust-less Session, A Finishing Frenzy
October 11—Sawdust Session	9 AM to 3 PM +/-
October 28—	<b>25th anniversary celebration</b> with 94 y.o. guest speaker Wally Dickerman
November 18 —	Tool Swap and ‘the Board Horder’ (Remember this is the Wednesday <u>before</u> Thanksgiving)

## Did-ja See That!?!?

Have you noticed how much more you’re getting out of the demonstrations? Gone are the distractions of flashing icons and blurry images.

Our video guys (The Jeffs and Tex) are doing a bang-up job keeping our attention riveted to where it should be—on the presenter and his work. I’ve noticed that each month they get more proficient at using the doomaflochy that allows them to fade from camera to camera and have split screens where that presentation will give the audience the best understanding.

We all like to be recognized for our efforts, so be sure to let them know what you think. —JTC



## And while we’re at it -

When was the last time that you went to our web site? Check it out folks! [www.OPCAAW.com](http://www.OPCAAW.com) will get you there. Since he no longer has the nagging responsibility of publishing this newsletter, Larry Matkin, our web master, has taken on the task of keeping the world, as well as our members, informed about our club. (No small task, especially when the web host knocks you out of your access for a prolonged period.)

A hearty pat on the back goes to

Larry and the effort he is putting into improving and streamlining our web site.

Use this web site as a reference source whenever you are in the need of information or inspiration. —JTC



## An Invitation

It has been said that one should not ever watch how sausage is made nor how our laws are created. Too upsetting.


Hopefully the same would not be said about how the guiding forces behind our club manage to actually have things happen. If you’re curious enough, you are invited to sit in on a board meeting.

The location moves around so as to not burden those who live in the far reaches of the peninsula, so ask the President where the next one will be. If you have an issue that you would like to have the board consider, bring that up to the President so that it can be added to the agenda.

Board meetings are usually two weeks prior to the general meeting, on a Wednesday evening at 5:30 PM. Exceptions are Nov and Dec. because of the Holidays.



## Sign me in, Boys

When you come to the monthly meeting, first thing as you come through the door, you see a sign—"Sign In" it says. If  you have a show and tell item, you might want to set it on the table to the right, but then don't let Russell distract you. Go directly to the sign-in station (next to the glue and sand paper sales) to the left and let them know you are there.

This give us, the board, all sorts of useful information that is used to better serve the club. While you're at it, pick up your red ticket(s) and put your name on the back, then drop it into the bowl. You get tickets for being there, having your name tag on (remember how your memory doesn't work all the time?), bringing something for show and tell and maybe some donated wood for the auction.

Then comes the Christmas Party, gifts are donated by members or sponsors and your red ticket is what might get you one of those prizes. As any Lotto player will tell you, you can't win if you don't have a ticket.



## Sawdust Session in October

**Jimmie Allen** is putting together a sawdust session to be held on Sunday, October 11, 2015 at our normal meeting place (see front page). Target time will be the normal 9am to 3pm. The usual suspects will be instructing, according to Allen. Details on who will be in attendance and what the topics of demonstration or instruction will be announced as those details come into focus.

For those who have never been to said Sawdust Session, it is an informal gathering of turners. Some half dozen of our more experienced will be at different stations and be talking or demonstrating on a given topic. Some of the possible subjects might be tool control, making boxes, skew work, etc. Observers will

have an opportunity to ask questions as well as have a hands on experience.

As the time draws nearer, details of who and what will be revealed. Watch this space, or somewhere near here, for more information. —JTC

### Some Show and Tell from July



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

#### The Lidded Metal Trash can

Do you have one in your shop?

Do you know what it is for?

**Hint-1**, a tight fitting lid will starve a fire's air supply.

**Hint-2**, if you put your rags and towels soaked in any flammable material in the can with the lid tightly shut, you won't have to explain to the Fire Marshal why your shop just went up in flames.

## CLUB SPONSORS

**CRAFT SUPPLIES USA**  
THE WOODTURNERS CATALOG

- Low Price Guarantee
- Largest Selection
- Quality Products
- Superb Customer Service
- Fast, Low Cost Shipping
- Family Owned Since 1982



**LOW PRICE GUARANTEE**  
We shop our competitors so you don't have to!  
woodturnerscatalog.com/PriceGuarantee

We constantly compare our prices to other companies to make sure we offer you the best possible price. If you find a lower price elsewhere, we'll match or beat the price!

1-800-551-8876 • woodturnerscatalog.com

[www.edensaw.com](http://www.edensaw.com)  
Port Townsend: 211 Seton Road  
Port Townsend, WA 98368  
(360)-385-7878  
Fax: (360) 385-5215  
Toll-Free: (800) 745-3336



Now with a full line of  
Rockler Supplies

TURN TO  
PACKARD  
FOR QUALITY  
TURNING TOOLS  
AND SUPPLIES



**Packard**  
WOODWORKS  
INC.

The Woodturner's Source

[www.packardwoodworks.com](http://www.packardwoodworks.com)  
1-800-683-8876

Create with Confidence



**ROCKLER®**  
WOODWORKING AND HARDWARE

[www.rockler.com](http://www.rockler.com)  
345 Tukwila Parkway  
Tukwila, WA 98188  
206-244-9161



877-672-5275  
[Www.cookwoods.com](http://Www.cookwoods.com)

*Doug Henderson  
Linda Henderson*      *Unique Woodcrafts*

**Laminations  
In  
Time**

Port Ludlow, WA 98365  
360-437-4033  
[dhend10@msn.com](mailto:dhend10@msn.com)

**J LOUIS KING**  
PHOTOGRAPHY



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

**Remember** to show your OP-CAAW membership name tag with a current year stamp showing you are a paid up member and get a discount with one of our sponsors

**CHATTER-MARKS** is produced by and for

The Olympic Peninsula Chapter of The American Association of Woodturners - OPCAAW

and is published monthly both electronically and for printed distribution. All articles are copyrighted by OPCA AW unless otherwise noted. Letters to the Editor and article submissions are welcome.

Jim Conway,  
Editor



# The Mentoring Program

The OPCAOW Mentors are a 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 program, meetings with mentors often become just that. In some cases, advanced formal instruction is available for an hourly rate.

OPCAOW Mentoring is available only to members. Please bring your current badge with you to the first session.

The current Mentors are:

<b>Dan Ackerman</b> (Brinnon)	360-796-4155
<b>Tones Briggs</b> (Port Orchard)	360-271-6448
<b>Bob Hickernell</b> (Bremerton)	360-479-5501
<b>George Kromka</b> (Bremerton)	360-373-1028
<b>Jim Leary</b> (Kingston)	360-297-5872
<b>Jim McFarland</b> (Shelton)	903-352-9807
<b>Brad Stave</b> (Gig Harbor)	206-910-5459

bstave@comcast.net

## OPCAOW Officers & Staff

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Russell Neyman**, President  
C: 360-813-4484  
President@OPCAOW.com

**Brad Stave**, VP Training & Education  
C: 206-910-5459  
Training@OPCAOW.com

**Jim Conway**, VP Public Relations  
C: 360-531-0168  
PublicRelations@OPCAOW.com

**Schuyler Beaver**, VP Membership  
H: 360-698-4108  
Membership@OPCAOW.com

**Peter Gerstel**, Secretary  
H: 360-697-6150  
Secretary@OPCAOW.com

**Jon Geisbush**, Treasurer  
H: 360-297-1773  
Treasurer@OPCAOW.com

**Vern West**, Sergeant-at-Arms  
H: 360-479-8634  
SergeantatArms@OPCAOW.com

**Larry Matkins** Webmaster  
360-551-1044  
Webmaster@OPCAOW

### STAFF POSITIONS

**Cindy Allen**, Special Events Coordinator  
H: 360-373-3041  
SpecialEvents@OPCAOW.com

**Jim McFarland**, Librarian  
903-352-9807

**Barbara Davis**, Glue & Sandpaper Sales  
C: 360-731-2725

**Jeff Childs**, Video Director  
C: 360-303-7074

**Jeff Nagley**, Cameraman  
360-229-3900

**Tex Lewis**, Cameraman  
360-698-3893

**Stan Stumbo**, Audio  
206-842-1458

To email all Board of Directors at once—  
BOD@OPCAOW.com

To email all Staff email at once—  
Staff@OPCAOW.com

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

**-- Dick Raffin,  
Master  
Woodturner**



**D-WAY TOOLS** Simply the *finest* lathe tools available

www.D-WayTools.com DWayTools@hctc.com 360/432-9509