



CHATTERMARKS

The eNewsletter for Woodturners of Western Puget Sound

Negative Rake Scrapers

Myths, Mysteries and Methods

Come to this month's meeting and be prepared to be immersed in the world of Negative Rake Scrapers by two of our own club members, Jimmie Allen and Jamie Straw.

Often thought of as a newfangled tool — or a questionable re-work of the old standby scraper — they are anything but! We don't want to give anything away here, but NRSs have been around for a very long time, are versatile and useful in a variety of situations, and are not expensive to "create" on your own.

Allen is a long-time member of OP-CAAW, and well-known for his exquisite exotic-wood boxes in shapes that have become his signature. He's been turning for more than a decade having been mentored by our own Dave Schweitzer and Dan Ackerman. For more than seven years he served at the club's Vice President of Training.

His professional background is as a fine finish carpenter and contractor, and he's a generous supporter of the club and its members. You'll usually see him conducting Show and Tell at the meetings, and turning and sharpening at the Sawdust Sessions. He now has his

own line of negative rake scrapers and will be showing them during the demonstration, explaining the more advanced uses and sharpening techniques.

Straw, who is our current Vice President of Training, is a novice turner, with a bit more than a year under her belt.

She worked "flat wood" for several years as a hobby, and bought her first lathe in 2010. However, shortly after taking a woodturning class from Bonnie Klein and turning a few spindles and bowls, she had to abandon the lathe in favor of a growing horse training business.

After retirement in 2015 due to injuries, she re-opened her shop, re-joined the club, and currently coordinates our demonstrations and training programs. She turns spindle projects and bowls, and enjoys mentoring novices, helping them spend wisely on their new (expensive) hobby and get started on smooth turning.

She is a strong supporter of the club's mentoring program, having gotten considerable help and advice from Jim Leary (Kingston). She often wishes she were closer to the other mentors on our list!



May 2017

Regular meeting is the last Wednesday of the month

Meet & Greet at 6 PM followed by announcements at 6:30.

Kitsap Adventist School Gymnasium
5088 NW Taylor Road
Bremerton.

Other activities include

Featured Demonstration, Refreshments, Show and Tell, Wood Auction, Sandpaper & Glue sales.

See our website at

OPCAAW.COM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Larry Lemon,
Chapter President

As we move into the summer months I am looking forward to more outdoor activities. It's a welcome change from this wet winter.

I'm opening the shop to fresh air and letting in the warm and natural light. It may be time to look into the corners, nooks and crannies and to do a clean out. That piece of wood that is too good to toss but not inspiring enough to put on the lathe might make it to the wood auction. Those extra pieces of equipment could be put on our Facebook page for sale or donated to the auction table at the club meetings.

Possibly it is time to get out of our comfort zone and try something a little different. There are no failures just learning experiences. Maybe it is time to try doing a piece using the lost wood process, finials, tall thin Goblets, segmenting, laminating thin pieces, a hollow form, a lidded box, make a pen, making tops for the Fair. The list can go on and on.

I am sure that many of you have done a lot of the things listed but possibly it is time to expand and either revisit a long forgotten technique or try something new. Possibly really expand and turn a wearable wooden hat. Whatever the case try something different and share your experience with the members on Facebook or at the show and tell.

President's Challenge: Balls

With the picnic coming up this summer at Dan Ackerman's home, it is a good time to kick back enjoy and get to know people a little more. Dan has an area for lawn bowling and it is recommended that you bring a ball to play. So the challenge this month is to make a ball. This may be a new endeavor for you. You do not need any fancy tools or jigs. All you need is a spindle gouge and

a skew or scraper.

I am including some links of where there are instructions on how to do this or you can find your own. If you have a ball cutting jig I challenge you to make one freehand. Here are some links for ideas the first two are pdf's of articles and the second two are You Tube links. If you do a search for "turning a ball" or "turning a sphere" on the web you can find a lot more ideas and information. Everyone seems to do it a little different. Have fun and bring your sphere to the June meeting for Show and Tell.

<http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.woodturner.org/resource/resmgr/Students/STUDENTspheres.pdf?hhSearchTerms=%22turning+and+sphere%22>

<http://www.timsturnery.com/pdf/>

[TurningSpheresTheEasyWay.pdf](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3lConTQ-cUw>

A Mini-Demo: George Kromka, Our Expert Topmaker!



George Kromka will do a quick demo just before the scraper presentation, showing how he turns tops so efficiently that he plans to turn 100 for our tops bucket by the end of April.

Our club collects these and we pass them out to youngsters who visit our booth at the Kitsap County Fair, and they always bring an instant smile to the faces of all involved.

"Turn it to shape, sand it to submission and drown it in Polyurethane." –

Richard Moran



**“I don’t
need more
time; I just
need a
deadline.”**

—JB Hall.

NOW THAT’S A VASE! We actually don’t know who this artist is, but it was forwarded to us by Ken Exline through our Pinterest Board. Our hat is off to this gentleman: He has more time, energy, and space than most of us do! (Just imagine what the cleanup was like.)



Learn, Socialize, Share through Open Shops.

Serving the full spectrum of experience levels — from the crusty old veteran woodturner who has made thousands of bowls to the noobie who is still pondering the purchase of his/her first lathe — is a priority in this club, and it’s a tall order to complete.

Obviously, if you address one group you run the risk of boring the others.

The beginning turners have the greatest need, and we try to give them a hand with their questions and challenges through full-scale, club-sponsored Sawdust Sessions. But there’s another, more intimate way: Open Shops.

These are nothing more than a

group of two, three, four or more woodturners who gather around one member’s lathe to swap ideas and create something together.

Yes, the club would be delighted to help you publicize these events, but it really doesn’t need to be all that formal. Just find someone who lives close to you, has similar interests (could be basic bowlmaking, or penmaking, or segmented pieces) and start spinning!

The advantages of this are numerous. You can work at your own pace with people you know; Travel is likely to be less because you planned it yourself; And it won’t cost you or the club a dime.

Calendar of events, shows, classes and other things

2017

- “Negative Rake Scrapers” — Live Demonstration by Jimmie Allen and Jamie Straw, May 29th General Meeting, Chico Adventist School Gymnasium.
- “Methods of Mounting Wood” — Live Demonstration by Ralph Lindberg, June 28th General Meeting, Chico Adventist School Gymnasium.
- American Association of Woodturners 31st Annual Symposium— June 22nd-25th in Kansas City, Missouri For more [Information](#). (Note: the 32nd AAW Symposium will be held in Portland Oregon in June of 2018)
- “Thin-Walled Turnings” — Live Demonstration by Kathleen Duncan, July 26th General Meeting, Chico Adventist School Gymnasium. Duncan is also an AAW officer and will discuss the national organization.
- OPCAAW Summer Potluck Picnic — Open to members and their families (children are invited), Brinnon at noon, Saturday, August 12th. A flier will be distributed beforehand.



Safety Tip: Slip-and-Fall

By Vern West.

Easter has passed and many of us are getting outside more for yard chores and for relaxation. Here in the northwest we still have rain showers, drizzle, mist fog, moss and mold. All of these contribute to slippery conditions.

Using your brain is probably the best defense. Do not rush any tasks, give your mind and body time to assess the conditions and respond to your desired actions. It may be time to look at updating your footwear. Mine have deteriorated and need to be replaced. Are yours up to the slippery challenges?

Please work and play safely.



Hmmm.... This burl harvesting expedition isn't going to end well.

May 2017

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Need help
setting up
your
shop?

Give an
OPCAAW
Mentor a
call.

Details are
on the last
page.

Award-Winning woodturner hosted by Olympia Woodturners in mid-July.

Michael Mocho, an award winning woodturner, will visit the Woodturners of Olympia in July. Michael has been a full-time craftsman since 1976 with extensive experience in furniture design, woodturning, pattern making, and stringed musical instruments.

He has completed residencies at the Arrowmont School of Craft, Anderson Ranch Arts Center, and the International Turning Exchange program. He is known for his intricate containers that often combine bent wood with turned, carved, and textured components, which have won numerous awards and are in many private and public collections.

All events are in a local woodturning shop and space is limited. To sign up for any of the workshops, contact George Macauley at 360-438-9032

Briefly, the demonstrations are spread over three dates:



- **Sunday, July 16th**—All-day demonstration covering a variety of design strategies and techniques for creating and altering box and vessel forms. He will demonstrate a variety of on-lathe textural techniques including chatterwork, indexed embossing, radial fluting, and spiral work. Bring a lunch. \$25 per person. Limit 22.

- **Monday, July 17th**—All day, hands on workshop covering effective spindle turning, learning to love the skew, on-lathe textural techniques, and Multi-axis work. Bring a lunch \$125 per person. Limit 10,

- **Wednesday, July 19th**— All day hands on workshop covering the design and creation of boxes and lidded containers. Again, pack your lunch. \$150 per person. Limit 10.

Check your email for additional details soon.

OPCAAW Votes for Non-Profit Status

The Olympic Peninsula Woodturners' Board of Directors voted unanimously to move forward with incorporating as a 501c nonprofit organization. The change is expected to go into effect in a month or two.

"Among the advantages is the ability to formally raise funds from the public," according to small business expert Rose Johnson of Chron.com. "The Internal Revenue Service makes fundraising easier for tax-exempt nonprofits by allowing donors to take tax deduction on contributions." The club may also become eligible for federal and state funding. The new status will also protect individuals representing the club from some forms of liability.

Johnson also notes that "The main benefit of nonprofit status is the ability to avoid paying federal and state income taxes on profits." OPCA AW has never made a profit, but this may be useful.

This change will come with a price tag. The initial filing fee can be hefty — we're still looking into that — and the club may incur some initial legal and accounting fees. It will require detailed financial and bookkeeping policies, too. The feeling among the Board of Directors, who passed the measure in April, is that the additional revenues from tax-deductible donations will offset the expenses and extra work.

Treasurer Jon Geisbush is spearheading the application process.

Give Facebook a Try! Honest, it Won't Hurt

Did you know that the Olympic Peninsula Woodturners have a very active Facebook Page? Now, before you start crabbing about how computers are taking over our lives, we'd like to give you a tip: Computers are useful tools, too!

Our Facebook page is a wonderful place for you to get instant results for your woodturning endeavors. Show your latest project, ask a question, or just peek in for some inspiration. It's

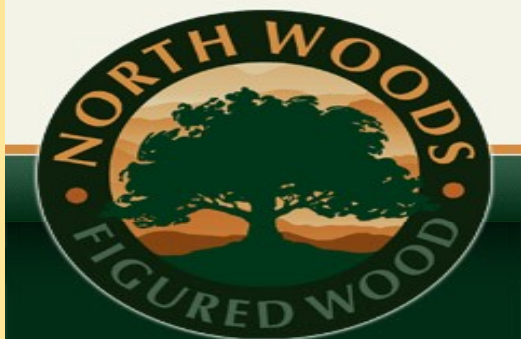


free, and dozens of club members check in every day, ready to respond to your inquiry or give you feedback on your project.

Creating a Facebook account is quite simple and is free. If you don't know how, just ask around the room.

"You know you're a woodturner if there's more wood than lint in your household dryer lint trap."

(Anon)



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Jim Conway,
Editor

May 2017

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The Mentoring Program

CONSIDER A MENTOR—The OPCA AW 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 at

an hourly rate.

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

The current Mentors are:

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



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“Your comments, criticisms, and suggestions are always welcome. Drop any (or all) of us a note.”

—The OPCA AW Board of Directors.