

German Ring Turning with Simon Begg



Learn the secrets of a 200+ year old technique with a modern-day twist! Simon Begg will present German ring turning, a 200-year-old technique originally used to produce toys.

You'll hear Simon discuss the importance of tool control, planning, and design throughout the session. What's more, he'll share the satisfaction of revealing a hidden shape!

In this presentation, Simon will offer live explanation, teaching, and Q & A with the support of a slideshow and pre-recorded video enabling you to see even the most complex camera angles. Key takeaways of his presentation include:

- Importance of planning and design
- Conquering complex cuts
- Turning accurately

About Simon Begg

From Sydney, Australia, Simon Begg is a young turner who was lucky enough to find his passion for woodturning at an early age. Throughout school he excelled in industrial technology and after high school completed cabinetmaking apprenticeships. Then in 2016, Simon quit his job as a cabinetmaker and started turning full-time after Turnfest, Australia's premier woodturning event. He has now taught at that conference has been one of its headline demonstrators.

FEB 2022

This month's meeting is Feb. 23rd at Kitsap Adventist School, 5088 NW Taylor Road, Bremerton.

In-person attendees must wear masks.

Virtual attendance is online via Zoom.

Other activities include

Featured Demonstration,

BYO Refreshments,

Show and Tell,

See our website at

OPCAAW.COM

President's Corner

Seems like we are getting an early spring and the temperature is rising. Hopefully we will get some good wind-storms so we can refill our wood stash. Its been a little slow for the wood wranglers... it's always feast or famine when it comes to getting wood. If you want to be involved with the wranglers make sure you get a hold of Roger Dunn. You can find his name and contact information at the back of this newsletter. You probably all got an e-mail blast about 3 classes that are coming up, our goal is to try and keep a 3 month look ahead for classes. We have secured the last Sunday of every month to hold classes at the school. Our fee for the class is to just cover our rental cost of the school and there will also be an additional material cost depending on the class. Please let us know what type of classes you are looking for ... thanks Brad Stave

Due to state and local mandates masks will be required in the building when we hold our general meeting.

Brad Stave, OPCA AW President

Just a reminder about Dues

Individual member dues for 2022 will continue to be \$30 (Family member dues remain \$50).

Our membership process is based on our website this year, so you must log in to the website to renew your membership.. Your dues payment renews your membership through Feb. 28, 2023. If you don't pay your yearly dues before March 1, 2022, your membership will lapse and you will no longer receive member-only emails and membership perks.

If you are having issues logging in and renewing your membership, please contact Jeff Brody directly at Webmaster@OPCAAW.com

To renew your membership by going to the **OPCAAW.COM** website, please log in and then and click on

"Renew Membership."

***February's meeting
will be held on the
23rd***

February General meeting will be held at the school / via Zoom and there will be a wood auction, show and tell and Scott's challenge.

Mask are Required for all attendees
If you don't feel well, please stay at home and
ZOOM

THE LATE Wally Dickerman —a man who spent more than 70 years in front of a lathe— once told me that he marveled at the tools and gadgets surrounding our art. He noted that new technological advancements have exploded in the last few decades. The common four-jaw scroll chuck really didn't emerge until the mid-1980's, and machinery like articulated arms and laser-assisted hollowing tools were merely a twinkle in an inventor's eye.

It's hard for me to pick up the oldest and crudest tool —a skew— without thinking back to the origins of the craft. It's believed woodturning probably dates to ancient Egyptian craftspeople. The oldest record of carving wood with a machine is a sculpted hieroglyph on the wall of an Egyptian priest's tomb 1300 years BC. The principle was exactly the same then as it is now: hold a sharp edge against a spinning piece of wood.

As the hieroglyph indicates, that early craft was a two-person affair; the wood was mounted between two points (dead centers, presumably) vertically. One man wrapped a strap around the object and pulled the ends alternately, causing the piece to spin, while a second individual held a sharp tool (undoubtedly similar to today's skew) against the surface.

Parenthetically, I'm tempted to re-enact this process in my shop by placing spindle blank between two live centers with the machine off. I'll have someone create the reciprocating spin with a rope, and perhaps we can

fashion a baseball bat or other shape in the same way.

I bet those two guys spent most of their time crafting practical things, like chariot axles and spears, with an occasional priest's ceremonial walking staff thrown in to placate the gods.

A Short Version of Woodturning's Long History.

By Russell Neyman.

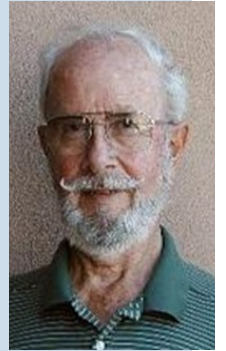


Similar technology emerged in the Far East about the same time, although the evidence there is a bit more vague. Different versions of the principle came and went — willow branch springs, bows, and variations on a spring system — but all of it came down to human power right through the Middle Ages. Because the wood spun in the *wrong direction* exactly half of the time, it must have been difficult to master the process.

The great artist and inventor, Leonardo DaVinci, of all people, included a drawing of a pedal-powered lathe in one of his sketchbooks, providing the first glimpse of a continuously-turning process. There's no evidence that he or anyone actually built his device, but I bet the concept sent minds spinning.

Still, woodturning remained essentially what we'd call "spindle work" because the source of power was so limited. The objects you and I make on our modern lathes — bowls, hollow forms, and jars — were simply impractical. Those items were mostly formed out of clay or hand-carved out trees.

So, when steam power and, later, electric



"When I was young, there was only one way to mount a bowl: on a faceplate."

—Wally Dickerman

A Short History of Turning (Continued)

motors came into being, the ability to shape wood into vessels suddenly blossomed. Hand in hand with that came advancements in steel. Craftspeople would quickly and easily whip out wooden plates and containers to hold food. It must have been a marvel to consumers when that technology arrived.

The more I think about it, the more I begin to appreciate the “tools and gadgets” that have come onto the scene just in the 20 years I’ve been a serious woodturner.

Take scroll chucks, for example. I recall when many common types were three-jaw affairs “borrowed” from metalworking. The advent of four-jaw chucks, along with jaws that had both dovetailed gripping surfaces and/or serrations made the craft incredibly safer. That advance alone make some more elaborate hollow forms possible.

And the hollowing systems themselves have taken gigantic leaps and bounds. Who’d think it was remotely possible to reach into a vessel through a one-inch opening to create walls a quarter-inch thick with the aid of a laser?

Then, there’s the elephant in the room, the machine that makes it all possible: the lathe. My first one was a Shopsmith Mark V, one of those five-machines-in-one affairs that really wasn’t very good for woodturning but the Reeves Drive speed control made it innovative for its era.



Now, most serious woodturners have lathes that have electronic variable speed controls and a reversing capability. The elimination of a vibration required only the flick of a wrist.

Heck, some of these machines even have built-in vacuum chucking systems, making it possible to hold onto a nearly-completed show piece by a finished edge to part away the ugly tenon left on the bottom. That’s HUGE

for those who strive to achieve sophisticated art pieces.

A lathe with a reverse-turning capability offers a considerable sanding edge, and certain hollowing devices are easier to use when the wood is spinning counter-clockwise.

Still, I admit I’m one of those who is a bit stubborn about “old school” technology. I use jamb chucks and shop-made accessories all the time. I chuckle to myself when I turn to simple and crude methods of getting the job done that date back to the craft’s origins.

The bottom line is that today’s woodturner is following principles of physics that date back 33 centuries, and yet the current explosion of “tools and gadgets” makes this an exciting time to be doing this.

Russell Neyman is a former president of OPCA AW who teaches woodturning in his Port Orchard studio-in-the-woods.



“My number one rule of turning is ‘The outside has gotta be bigger than the inside.’”

—RN.

OPCAAW is in process of scheduling class at the 7th day Adventist school every last Sunday of the month. OPCA AW has contracted with the school to rent the space. So the price of the classes will be minimal so we can cover the cost of renting the school and each class will have a material fee and will be different for each class based on the material required.

February Class 2/27/22

Announcing a pen turning class led by our own Brad Powers on February 27th, 2022. The session will run from 10am to 3pm with a lunch break from 12-1. All supplies will be provided, including two pen kits and a bonus letter opener kit. Participants will take home two finished pens and a finished letter opener if time allows. The material fee also includes wood. Each step of the process will be demonstrated with opportunities for hands-on learning at every step. No prior experience required.

The fee for the whole day will be \$25.00 for OPCA AW members and \$55.00 for non-members There will also be a \$25.00 material fee . The non-member fee of \$55.00 will include membership into OPCA AW for 1 year, this ensures that all class members will be covered by OPCA AW's insurance ..

March 27th – Bowl Turning 101 – Instructor Brad Stave

This class will focus on bowl making techniques and design along with the use of “Jam Chucks” for reverse turning – More info to follow

April 23 – Box Making with Jimmie Allen

This class will require some turning experience and will send you home with a one of a kind Lidded Box like Jimmie Allen creates

– more info to follow

“He who works with his hands is a laborer. He who works with his hands and his head is a craftsman. He who works with his hands and his head and his heart is an artist.” — St. Francis of Assisi

Calendar of events, shows, classes and other things

CHATTERMARKS

Feb 23 1 pm – Simon Begg – German Rings, shared ZOOM meeting

Upcoming Meeting Demos at School & ZOOM:

Feb 23	– Simon Begg	German Rings
Mar 30	– David Ellsworth	Hollow Forms
Apr 27	– Ed Pretty	Bow Ties
May 25	– Don Derry	Coloring
Jun 29	– John Ames	Flute
Jul 27	– Pat McCart	3 Foot Bowls

Upcoming OPCA AW Classes:

Feb 27	– Pen Making 101	– Instructor Brad Powers
Mar 27	– Bowl Turning 101	– Instructor Brad Stave
Apr 23	– Box Making	– Instructor Jimmie Allen

More to follow and you can **keep up to date at our club website** [calendar](http://opcaaw.com/my-calendar/):
<http://opcaaw.com/my-calendar/>

"...craft is about making things well...art is about manipulating and arranging materials to visually articulate an idea." (from Studio Craft as Career by Paul Stankard)



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FEB 2022

PAGE 6

Website Calendar is Always Up To Date

There's a wealth of information about our club and many resources that can improve your woodturning skills at OPCAOW.com. But it's often not the first place you look for that information.

Perhaps you are wondering when the next OPCAOW meeting will be, or the location of that meeting, or who will be demonstrating at the meeting. Or perhaps you are interested in finding out when upcoming woodturning classes will be and what they will be about. You may even have an idea for the club that you'd like to raise with OPCAOW leadership during the next Board meeting.

The best way for you to find out all about our organization's events is to check the calendar section of our website. The calendar is a section of its own, with a separate link on the menu bar that takes you directly to it. The online calendar is always up to date. It's a resource that's just waiting for you to use it. Depending on how you record your preference for viewing the calendar, you can see either a monthly view, a weekly view or a daily view. Because we don't have a jam-packed schedule, your default view probably should be the monthly view.

Calendar

Olympic Peninsula Woodturners > Calendar

Events in February-April 2022

Month: ▼ Week ▼ Day ▼

February 2022 GO

◀ Previous Next ▶

LOG IN / LOG OUT

Logged in as: Jeff_Brody | [Profile](#) | [Logout](#)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL / APPLICATION

It's time for 2021 members to **renew** your membership for 2022. Please log in first. You cannot follow the link to renew your membership unless you are logged in.

If you wish to join OPCAOW for the first time, **apply** here.

Dues are \$30 per year for an individual; \$50 for a family.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 7:00 pm: Board Meeting	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 6:00 pm: Regular Meeting - Simon Begg: German Rings	24	25	26
27	28	1	2	3	4	5

Categories

General
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MEETINGS

Our club normally meets monthly at the Seventh Day Adventist School, 5088 NW Taylor Road, Bremerton, WA. Check the upcoming events section below for specific meeting information.

LATEST NEWSLETTER

One of our Own!
Jennifer Allen
Turned Boxes

This is the second in a series of monthly Chattermarks articles that explore the club's website, explain how its content is organized and how it can be accessed, and encourage a discussion about how to make it a more useful tool for you.

The monthly calendar view

FEB 2022

PAGE 7

Most months, we have anywhere from two to five events listed, depending on what's coming up. At the very least, you will see the monthly Board meeting listed and the monthly membership meeting, during which we almost always have a woodturning demonstration.

At the top of the calendar display there are buttons you can use to select the calendar view you desire: monthly, weekly or daily. There is also navigation that allows you to move to the previous calendar segment or the next, based on the view you have chosen. If you are viewing a month at a time, the "Previous" button takes you to last month, and the "Next" button takes you to next month.

Calendar navigation

In the monthly view, there is also a dropdown menu that allows you to choose to view any month from any year. If you have an Outlook calendar or a Google calendar on your computer or smart phone, you can click on a button at the bottom of the calendar view to subscribe to our events. That way, whenever new events are added to the OPCAOW calendar, they will be added to your Google or Outlook calendar automatically.

◀ Previous Next ▶

February ▼ 2022 ▼ **GO**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			7:00 pm: Board Meeting			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
			6:00 pm: Regular Meeting - Simon Begg: German Rings			
27	28	1	2	3	4	5

Subscribe to the OPCAOW calendar using these links.

Categories

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Links to subscribe

While many of our events are at places that are common to the club, the map link can be very useful in the case of an event that is not at one of our usual locations or if an event is being offered by another turning club in the region.

Also, at the bottom of the event listing, there is a link you can use to add the event to your Apple or Google calendar if you have one.

As the webmaster, I generally do not delete past events, especially meetings and special demonstrations. If you ever want to look back and see who demonstrated and when in past years, you can see that by looking for a specific month and year in the drop-down menus from the month view page. It may be easier to find using the calendar than to try to look back through all the past newsletters that are archived on the website. But since we launched our WordPress website in 2017, you can't go any farther back in the calendar than that year.

We'll explore other sections of the website in the coming months.

It's my job to make the club website as useful and accessible as possible for our members and for members of the public who might be interested in OPCA AW.

If you have any thoughts about how we can make our online calendar better, or make any part of our website better, please contact me at webmaster@opcaaw.com with your thoughts and ideas.

Jeff Brody

(Jeff Brody is a board member and webmaster for OPCA AW. He's retired from a career in journalism and communications and has been turning since 2012.)

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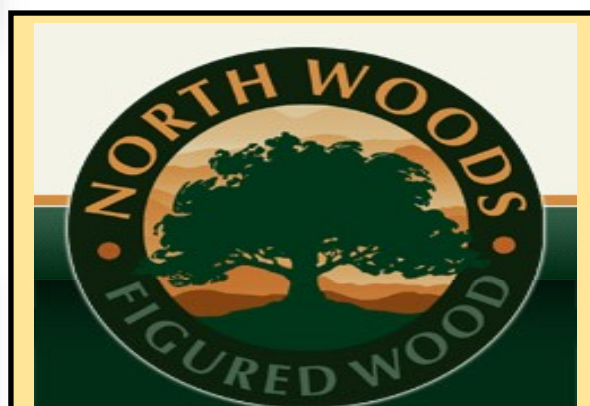
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The Mentoring Program

CONSIDER A MENTOR—The OP-CAAW **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, ad-

vanced formal instruction is available at an hourly rate.

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

The current Mentors are:

George Kromka (Bremerton) 360-373-1028

Jim Leary (Kingston) 360-297-5872

Brad Stave (Gig Harbor) 206-910-5459

Go to this [link](#) on our [website](#) for an updated article on the Mentor Program — what it takes to be a good mentor!

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Show & Tell photos from previous month's meetings are posted on our [website](#) at:

<http://opcaaw.com/gallery/>

CHATTERMARKS is produced by and for **The Olympic Peninsula Chapter of The American Association of Woodturners - OPCA** and is published monthly electronically. All articles are copyrighted by **OP-CAAW** unless otherwise noted. *Letters to the Editor* and article submissions are welcome.

Brad Stave, Editor