



## NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Another month gone by! It feels like yesterday that I joined the club but it's already been a year, and an interesting year it has been. Thank you to everyone that came to the WSIC board meeting, all your support does not go unnoticed. Other than that this meeting we have elections, the president's challenge, show and tell, auction, and a demo. Eventful to say the least. With that said see you all at the meeting,

John Clark V

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## OCT2024

**THIS MONTH'S  
MEETING IS 6:30  
PM MONDAY, OCT  
21ST AT WEST  
SIDE  
IMPROVEMENT  
CLUB,**

**4109 WEST E ST ,  
BREMERTON, WA  
98312**

**FOR MORE INFO  
VISIT:**

[OPCAAW.COM](http://OPCAAW.COM)

**QUESTIONS?**

[CONTACT ONE OF  
THE BOARD](#)

# PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE / ELECTIONS

Just a reminder for those not present at the last meeting or did not read the previous newsletter, this month's **president's challenge is lidded vessels**. Those of you who took the box class with me, I hope you see yours on the table! If you would like to bring **any turnings** other than a lidded vessel, please do! There is **plenty of room** on the **show and tell table!**

In other news, **thank you to everyone who has been taking classes** and absorbing the knowledge of our local talent! In that same vein we are still in desperate **need for helpers** as our number one is going down south for the winter. **Helping out** during classes is great **opportunity to learn the process** and **support our few instructors**.

Finally, **elections are this meeting**. The slate of officers are as follows:

<b>Frank Luce</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>John Clark V</b>	<b>VP Public Relations</b>
<b>Brad Powers</b>	<b>VP Membership</b>
<b>Tim Larson</b>	<b>VP Training</b>
<b>Laurie Aardal</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Mika Sinanan</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Chuck Burke</b>	<b>Sergeant-at-arms</b>
<b>George Kromka</b>	<b>Class Coordinator</b>
<b>Sandi Swayze</b>	<b>Board Member at Large</b>

# OCTOBER DEMONSTRATION

In this month's demo, Tim Larson will be going over some of the techniques he learned while taking a class with Jean-François Escoulen. The demo will start with the use of a string steady rest then into multi axis turning.



# 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:

**George Kromka** (Bremerton) 360-373-1028

**Jim Leary** (Kingston) 360-913-8073

**Larry Lemon** (Gig Harbor) 253-278-9058

**Tim Larson** (Poulsbo) 360-930-1064

**Scott Overby** (Port Orchard) 360-535-3203

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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Show & Tell photos from previous month's meetings are usually posted on our website at:

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



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## MONTHLY DEMO

Kevin did not grow up knowing a woodturner, nor did he learn to use a lathe in high school. Rather, he happened upon woodturning while putting together a home woodworking shop in 2020 at the height of the Covid pandemic. For reasons still unknown, while searching for used equipment, he entered “lathe” in the search bar and has not created flatwork since. He stumbled through his first turnings, poking at the spinning piece of wood with questionably sharp tools. He quickly joined two local clubs and the AAW, but access to in-person instruction was non-existent due to the pandemic. Despite these early shortcomings, he knew he was in love with woodturning and dove headfirst into this new obsession. He studied everything he could about the craft. Much of the information he found was shared freely by numerous highly experienced and accomplished woodturners and made available by the AAW. When his mother suddenly passed away just a couple months after he began woodturning, Kevin took an interest in hollow forms, with the intention of making an urn. “I have now created many hollow forms, but I do not know if I will ever be ready to make that urn,” he says.

Once in-person meetings and classes resumed, Kevin took every opportunity to learn from others, attending classes with Graeme Priddle, Melissa Engler, Dale Larson, David Ellsworth, and numerous others. By taking the proven techniques of master woodturners and infusing them with his own aesthetic and affinity for the beauty of simplicity, Kevin has come a long way in just a few short years. Expressing his gratitude for the journey so far, Kevin says, “I consider myself a product of the AAW and feel fortunate that I have the opportunity to help others advance even more rapidly than I have. I won’t say that woodturning is easy, but it doesn’t have to be complicated. With a handful of basic tools and an understanding of best practices, much can be accomplished in a short period of time.”