Arizona Woodturners Association

Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

March 2025 Newsletter

March 15, 2025

Noon to 3:30pm

Instant Gallery, Show N Tell, Critique, Demonstration



Chad Schimmel
Turners Warehouse

Stabilizing vs Casting: Applications for Woodturning

In this demo Chad will go over the basics of both stabilizing and resin casting and combining them to make amazing turning blanks!

Demonstration will include both a stabilizing chamber, and a pressure pot.

Chad has been turning for over 20 years. He left his corporate job in 2013 to sell his art full time and in 2016 opened Turners Warehouse, a turning supply store in Gilbert, AZ.

Chad loves to teach about woodturning, pen making, resin casting and loves to talk shop when he has the time, helping both new and experienced turners while continuing to grow his own skills. He has presented internationally for Record Power teaching about segmenting, many demos and continually teaches classes. Chad also has a YouTube channel with over 30K subscribers where he posts instructional and maker videos and is excited to continue teaching and presenting in the coming year.







President's Message

Richard January



I found Rick Rich's February demonstration very interesting. His explanations on how to get a cut that results in a good finish and minimal sanding rang true for me. I spend far too much time sanding. The projects he completed, although relatively simple and straight forward provide an opportunity to develop essential skills, while making something that could be used as a gift or a farmer's market item.

Thank you to all of those who were involved in setting up, preparing and serving lunch and cleanup.

March Demonstration

Chad Schimmel will demonstrate using resins and stabilizers. If you have been to Turners Warehouse you have seen some of Chad's work. In addition to making beautiful things by themselves, resins and stabilizers provide opportunities to work with wood which is not perfect, enhance the beauty of wood with color, or increase the durability and water resistance.

Upcoming Events

Desert Woodcarvers Show and Sale

The Desert Woodcarvers Show and Sale was held at Mesa Centennial Hall, February 22 and 23. We had 2 lathes at the event. Thank you to Jim McCleary for coordinating the event and to all the volunteers who demonstrated and moved equipment.

Pinal County Fair

The Pinal Couty Fair will be March 12 through 16. Thank you to those demonstrating at the fair – you can see the schedule and any open slots here. Any questions you can contact Dick Jones, who is coordinating the event.

Maricopa County Fair

The Maricopa County Fair will be held April 4, 5, 6 and 10, 11, 12, 13. As in the past we will have 2 lathes and will do 2 shifts per day. More details and sign up for specific shifts will available in March, watch the link on the AWA website. However, the Fair has requested that we provide them a list of demonstrators further in advance than in the past. I believe they are trying to get credentials out to participants in advance to make getting through the gate easier. If you will be able to demonstrate at the Fair, please email me. I do not need to know the exact date and time now.

Wig Stands

Wig Stands will be collected during the March meeting. ***Goal is to collect over 100 wig stands!*** I encourage everyone to make wig stands. They are an excellent project to practice both faceplate and spindle skills. This is also an excellent opportunity to show woodturning while providing to those going through stressful times.

Elections

Elections will be conducted in April. The following positions will be elected.

President

Treasurer

3 Directors

If you are interested in running for one of these positions, please contact a member of the Board of Directors. Note that Executive Officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary) are required by the Bylaws to be members of the American Association of Woodturners.

As required by the Bylaws, the Board will propose a slate of officers for presentation to the Membership in March. At that time, we will also accept nominations from the floor.

At the present time we have identified members interested in running for the open positions with the exception of the Treasurer. This is an esential member of the Board. Rich Slosky has served unselfishly for four years. If you are able to support the club by serving as Treasurer, please contact me.

Program Committee

The Program Committee arranges the demonstrations for our meetings, including the selection of twice a year professional demonstrators. If you would like to help with this important task, please email me.

Richard

March President's Challenge

Wig Stands and Kaleidoscopes

February 15, 2025
Rick Rich All-day Demonstration

Those who paid for the demonstration should have received a password to view the demonstration video. Any questions, email the webmaster@AZWoodturning.org



Student work from classes and Rick's Demo



Rick making the 3-legged stool



Audience enjoyed all the different techniques and projects



Rick used "story sticks" in turning his spindles



Rick making a "spin top" using only a skew

February 2025 Hands-on classes with Rick Rich at the Kundrat Learning Center























Class included lunch served at the KLC! Great time to relax and talk to fellow woodturners.









March 2025

KUNDRAT LEARNING CENTER NEWS

Wow! February was quite the month for the Kundrat Learning Center. For the first time, we hosted the hands-on classes offered by the club's professional guest turner. Rick Rich conducted three all-day classes and was very complimentary of the facilities and support. We are confident that we will be able to host future guest turners.



We also conducted the 3rd and 4th sessions of our **Skill Building** classes for our new and beginning students. The series will conclude with an all-day class, focused on bowl turning.



Upcoming Classes

Wig Stand --**The class is full!**

Mary Schick will be conducting a wig stand class, in support of one of the club's annual charities. The class will be **March 1st from 9 am to 1 pm.**



Skill Building (Series 25-2) beginning March 22nd! ***Four (4) Slots Remaining.***
Enroll Now! Instructions for enrolling are below.

For those unfamiliar with the Skill Building series, it is now a 5-session, **progressive** learning series, focused on assisting the new/beginning turner become familiar with the fundamentals of woodturning. Topics covered include shop and personal safety, the lathe and turning tools; their selection and use, sharpening, wood selection and preparation, spindle turning, bowl turning.
Attendees need to plan to attend all 5 sessions!

- The **cost is $90** for the series and includes the cost of materials.

Dates/Topics for the March to May series are:

- **Session 1: March 22 (9 am to 12 pm) --** Shop Safety (including an inspection of attendee's tools and face shields), Lathe Selection and Maintenance, Sharpening
- **Session 2: April 12 (9 am to 12 pm) --** Lathe Operations, Project Mounting Options, Introduction to Spindle Turning (rounding, beads & coves)
- **Session 3: April 26** (**9 am to 12 pm) --** Spindle Turning (rounding, beads & coves) w/ Mallet Project
- **Session 4: May 10 (9 am to 12 pm) --** Spindle Turning (rounding and push cut) w/ Spinning Top Project
- **Session 5: May 22 (9 am to 4 pm) (w/ lunch break) --** Bowl Turning (from cutting the blank to turning and hollowing the bowl

Contact John Brower at jsbrower@cox.net to sign up or for more information.

How to Effectively Use the Skew

April 5th and 6th. ($30) **This class is full.**
Matt Clarke returns with his 2-day Skew class, Saturday and Sunday, April 5th and 6th from 9 am to 5 pm. New and experienced turners have all lauded Matt's class.

Due to the high demand for this class, Matt has agreed to offer **another session, May 31st and June 1st.** **This class is also full.**



On the Horizon—Details coming in the summer newsletters

- September—Beads of Courage Box from Barrel Staves, by Dick Jones
- October--Antique Pepper Mill, by Jeff Kustuch
- November—Holiday Ornament Class

Your KLC Committee
Brian Mason-Chair
Michael Luksich
John Brower

Join WIT at the KLC

WIT meetings are at the Kundrat Learning Center (KLC) the first Wednesdays of the month. Any women in the club are welcome – men too if room available!

In February we had a successful class making acorns and everyone left with a pair of nuts.





March 5th: 9-12:30pm

Japanese Kendama game taught by Dick Jones. Materials will be supplied. We will be buying the ball due to time constraints and making the rest. This will be a great practice on the use of spindle techniques.





April 2nd: 9-12:30pm

Baby rattle with captive rings taught by Cal Vander Koo

May 7th: 9-12:30pm

Biscuit cutter and French rolling pin taught by Dale Gilford



Questions? Contact: Sarah Slocum, WIT Coordinator

Event and News - Wig Stands

February 8th, Cancer Support Community of Arizona (CSCAZ)

A big thank you to all of our members that had wig stands ready early and contributed to the February 8th Phoenix event. We had 41 wig stands ready to donate to this event from:

Dale Guilford 16
Dave Madden & Mary Schick 12
Mary Schick 5
Sarah & David Slocum 4
Richard Bartholomew (Bart) 3
Blaine Dalrymple 1





The event was a free “Day of Beauty” for the clients of CSCAZ that are experiencing hair loss from chemotherapy. They arrived looking uncertain and stressed. After being fitted for a wig (from EBeauty) and having it styled, they had their make-up done and help with eyebrows and eyelash

replacements. At the end of the treatments, they received a wig stand and they looked happy and felt more like themselves. This is one of the participants photos.



In talking with one of the volunteers while she was admiring the wig stands, I told her about some of our other projects including Empty Bowls and Beads of Courage. She lit up with a smile and said she still had her Beads of Courage box from her bout with childhood cancer!

The hair stylists and Makeup stylists were from Paul Mitchell Schools. Their day of volunteering was very rewarding for them. They had never worked with cancer patients and they felt very appreciated for their work, too.

Thanks to our wood sponsors: Apple Blossom and Spellman Hardwoods.

Looking forward to our next meeting to see all the amazing wig stands you have made!!

Questions or need a wig stand kit? Contact Mary!

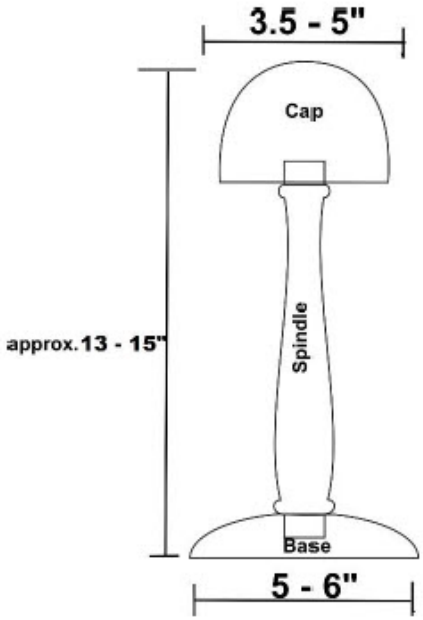
Thanks!

Mary Schick
WIG Stand Program Coordinator

Bring those Wig Stands to the March 15th meeting! Goal is over 100 wig stands.

Basic wig stand directions. More ideas on the AWA website under Club Projects. There is also a need for some taller wig stands for longer hair.

The overall design of the wig stand can be as ***creative*** as possible within the following guidelines:



- Height 13-15" high approximately
- Cap – 3 ½ to 5"
  Rounded
- Base - 5 to 6" to complement the cap
  Should be heavy enough to provide stability
  A preference is to be dished out slightly to hold jewellery. This is not a requirement.
- Finish –
  - Since it is possible that these will get wet that varnishes, waxes and oils be avoided.
  - Polymerized tung oil
  - Polyurethane
- Wood -
  - Any type of wood can be used.
  - Segmenting and laminating possible but it would be recommended that a waterproof glue like Titebond 3 used and be completely **sealed with poly**.
  - Softwood woods like pine and cedar can be used but be aware that if you plan on staining there is lots of end grain visible that absorb a lot of stain

Lots of options: plain wood, painted, lasered, burned, carved, etc.!



Thank you!



A couple of "Shoutout Thank You's"!

Thank you to Mark Caron a recent new member. Mark has donated a number or turning chisels and turning blanks that will be used at the KLC for skill building and other classes. His generosity is appreciated.

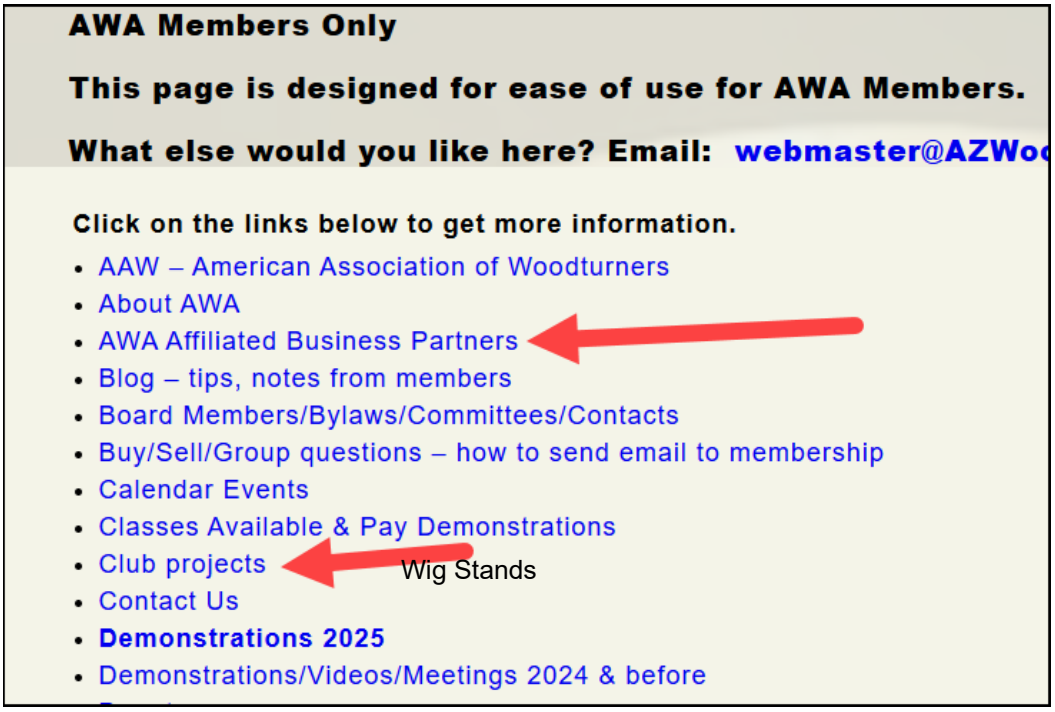
Thank you to Philip and Doug of Apple Blossom Woodworks for teaming up with **Spellman Hardwoods** and donating 100 wig stand kits to Arizona Woodturners

APPLE BLOSSOM WOODWORKS

SPELLMAN HARDWOODS

Thank you to Dale Guilford who continually works to find us "Business Partners" who donate to AWA or gives us discounts!

We now have over 25 businesses who support our club. Check them out in the Members Only section of the AWA Website. The updated webpage lists businesses local and online who offer discounts. Any question on how to get those discounts – Dale is glad to help.



Membership Corner



Dale Guilford
Membership
Coordinator

George Thompson - Maricopa

Where are you from? Wyoming. Now live in AZ October-May. Wyoming in the summer.

When did you first start turning or are you just starting out? About 1 year ago. Self-taught

Why did you join our club? Was encouraged by one of your members at a Woodcraft event a year ago. I'm looking to learn.

Are there any topics or demos you would like us to include in future meetings? Any techniques for turning. Carbide tools versus HSS. Sharpening

What do you like to turn and why? My kids gave me a bowl turning class at Turners Warehouse. I really enjoyed it. I have turned a few pens and some salt & pepper grinders.

Do you have a list of projects and areas of interest that you plan on working? Resin casting, pen turning, bowl turning

Do you have any interest in mentoring others, either one on one or in a group setting? Yes, but don't feel qualified yet.

What is you go to tool? I have a Jet 1221 VS. I have mostly used carbides, but am trying to learn HSS.

Where is turning in your weekly list of activities? Once or twice a week. It's been a dry spell lately. I do some cabinet work and am focused on finishing a buffet table.

We are all still learning, what is on your to do list? Small gifts like salt grinders, pens. I'd like to learn spindle turning.

Ric Compton - Phoenix

Welcome!

Where are you from? Denver, but been in Phoenix for 35 years

When did you first start turning or are you just starting out? Been woodworking for 40 years but turning for about 6 months

Why did you join our club? Learn techniques

Are there any topics or demos you would like us to include in future meetings? Basics of better tool usage

What do you like to turn and why? Moving into segmented bowls and epoxy

Do you have a list of projects and areas of interest that you plan on working? Segmented bowls and epoxy, mostly bowls and lamps

What is you go to tool? Probably band saw

Where is turning in your weekly list of activities? I am retired so woodworking, my sawmill and tractor work in Colorado during the summer

We are all still learning, what is on your to do list? Segmented bowls, tool usage

Woodturners' Day at Chequest Millworks

The third annual woodturners' day at Chequest Millworks is happening on Saturday, March 8th from 10:00 until noon. Owner Todd Langford will have four-inch and six-inch thick blanks of Indian Rosewood (Sissoo), Mesquite and (maybe) willow acacia.

Chequest Millworks is located at 9044 West Deer Valley Rd, at the corner of N 91st Avenue in Peoria.

This is a unique opportunity to get fresh bowl blanks of beautiful wood. This year's prices are not known but last year, 4-inch blanks were $20 and 6-inch blanks were $25. Blanks range in widths from12" up to 16+".

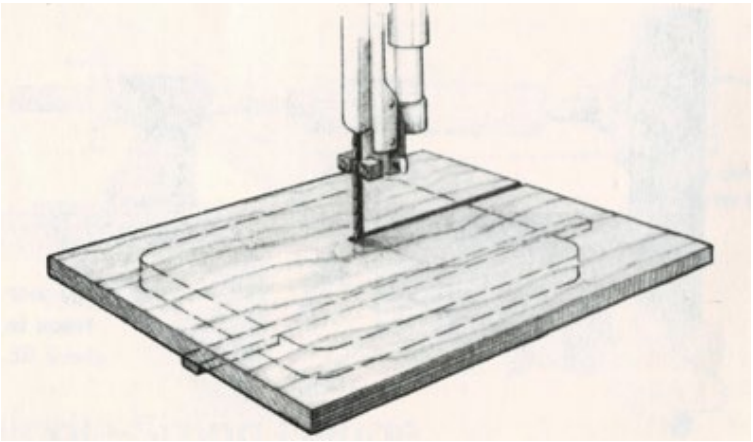
Any questions, call me at 602-633-6810 or e-mail me at ken.waller@cox.net.





Ring Bowl Project

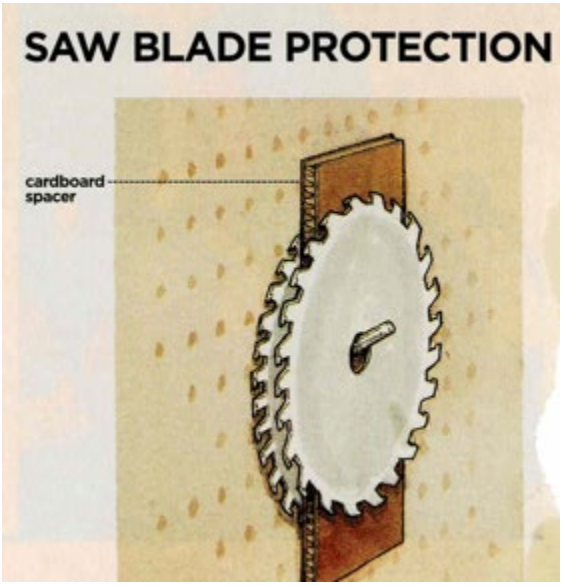




Auxiliary Bandsaw Table

Make a wooden table to fit over your bandsaw table. Glue a strip of wood underneath to fit into the miter-gauge slot (if your saw has one). This "slave board," as I call it, can be aligned and clamped to the bandsaw table so that any number of jigs and fixtures can be nailed, screwed or drilled into the slave board without damaging the bandsaw table.

Bill Bigelow, Surry, NH



The carbide on the teeth of circular saw blades is sharp but very brittle. Even tossing blades into a drawer for storage can damage them. When you're not using a blade, hang it on a nail or a pegboard hook. If there's more than one blade on a hook, separate them with spacers made of corrugated cardboard. If you don't have hanging space, keep blades in the packaging they came in and park them in a cabinet.

Also, when you change blades on a table saw, don't put them directly on the saw's table—it may shatter teeth. Instead, place them on a scrap of plywood or some other, softer surface. (This Old House – Norms Notebook)

Air hose hanger

I often use compressed air while turning and naturally wanted to have the hose and blow gun within reach, yet stored safely out of the way. I decided to mount a magnetic cup hook to the headstock of my lathe and hang the blow gun from it. I found that the hook had a rather weak, rubberized magnet that would not support the weight of the blow gun and hose, so I glued an additional rare earth magnet in the cup hook base. My air gun is now always within easy reach.

—John Tarpley, Tennessee



CARTER AND SON TOOLWORKS

5 Beginner Wood Lathe Projects You Need to Try

Whether you're looking for your inaugural woodturning project, or just something new to try at the lathe, enjoy browsing five of our favorite projects. We've ranked them by level of difficulty and included a helpful video tutorial.



Don't worry about knocking off each project on this list. An exciting aspect of woodturning is that you can create the "same" piece over and over, for example a wooden box, and no two will be quite alike. Different woods, details, and your unique ideas make each piece one of a kind. See where the wood and your imagination take you, and happy turning!



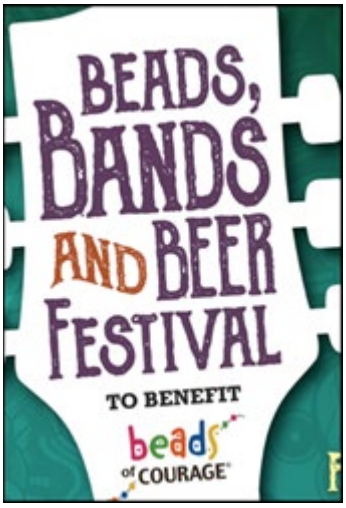






Beads of Courage - February 8th Event

AWA helped celebrate the “Forever Home Grand Opening” in Tucson at the Beads, Bands and Beer Festival













TURNERS WAREHOUSE.com

Open House

Feb 8th

1528 W San Pedro St # 7,

Gilbert, AZ 85233

AWA was there to enjoy and demonstrate at the Turners Warehouse DEMO Day. Demonstrations, demonstrators and vendors for everyone to visit and see!















A Word About Toy Safety

(resource AAW)

When turning toys that are intended for young children, such as spinning tops, dolls, rattles, ball-and-cup games, etc., ensure the toys are safe for young children to play with. Information about toy safety is available from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (cpsc.gov). Another resource is KidsHealth.org. Generally, imagine what a curious, clever child might do, and take safeguarding steps accordingly. Make each doll as safe and strong as possible. Here are some factors to consider:

- Ensure any small additions/accessories such as buttons are secure and cannot be removed, as they could become a choking hazard.
- Ensure metal components, especially rare-earth magnets, are absolutely secure and cannot be removed.
- Choose child-friendly, nontoxic finishes.
- Take steps to safeguard against choking hazards for small children. This could take the form of a small toy as one unit or smaller components that could be separated. KidsHealth.org advises, “Toys should be large enough—at least 1 1/4" (32mm) in diameter and 2 1/4" (6cm) in length—so that they can’t be swallowed or lodged in the windpipe. A small-parts tester, or choke tube, can determine if a toy is too small. These tubes are designed to be about the same diameter as a child’s windpipe. If an object fits inside the tube, then it’s too small for a young child. If you can’t find a choke tube, ask a salesperson for help or use a toilet paper roll tube.”



Cal Vander Kooi picked up some wood at the Dead Tree Salvage Open House. Cal cored the wood and got a lot of bowls!



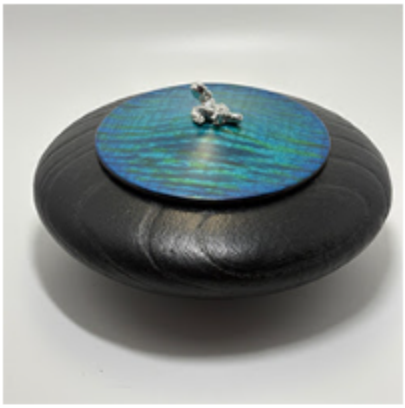
7 pieces

Became 21+ pieces



As an American Association of Woodturner member you receive e-news along with a monthly magazine and a website full of resources. Check out joining today! Below is a blurb from an e-news with an AWA member showing his work – Dennis Cameron.

February Blues



Dennis Cameron
Untitled
Ash, maple



Tony Trigg
Blue Bowl



Carol & Mark Hall
Fight the Fight
Cherry
7" x 7" x 2"



Walker Westbrook
Untitled
Maple

See more woodturned work!

Many "Turnings of the Week" are selected from the AAW Forum and Maker Photo Gallery. We encourage you to inspire others by uploading and sharing your work!

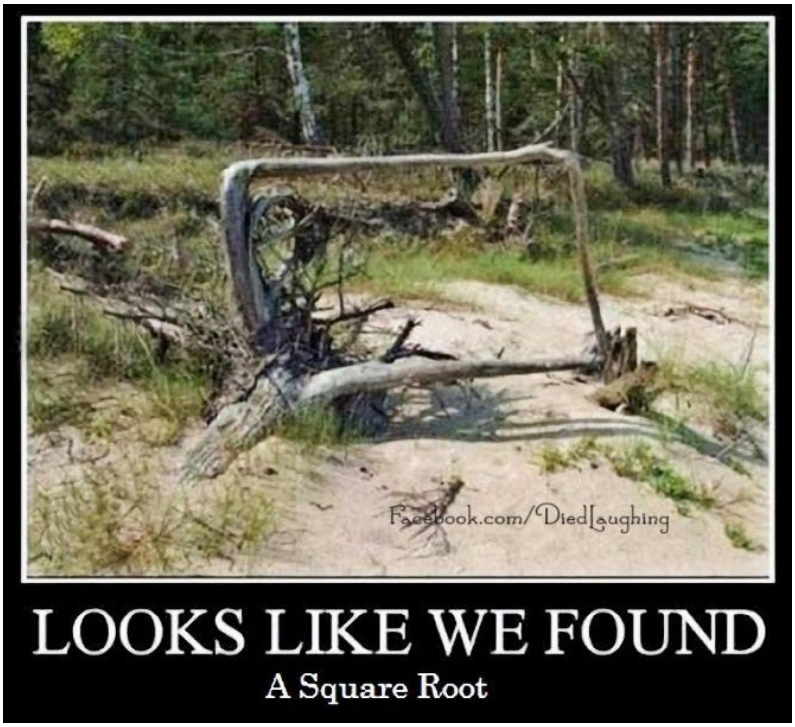
Want to connect with other woodturners?

Sign up for the AAW Forum, a member moderated online community ideal for sharing work and ideas, and obtaining feedback from other woodturning enthusiasts. You can upload photos, converse with other woodturners, and maybe even see your work as a "Turning of the Week."



Studies confirm that laughter lowers blood pressure and releases beta-endorphins, a chemical in the brain that creates a sense of joy.

Thank you to Jim Meizelis for supplying some humor for the AWA Newsletter.



2025 Demonstrations & President Challenges

The complete year of demonstrations is on the website.

Date	Demonstrator	Topic	President challenge
Mar 15, 2025	Chad Schimmel	Resin, Stabilizer and more	Wig Stand and/or Kaleidoscope
Apr 19, 2025	Brent Gifford	Rim Embellishment Tool Sale	Turning incorporating Resin
May 17, 2025	Dean Humphrey	Things you find in a Kitchen	Rim embellishment





Check out the AWA Board Minutes, Revenue, Expenses, and Budget that support our club.

The latest Finance Reports and Board Meeting Minutes is located on the "members only" section of the Website: https://arizonawoodturners.org/turning/treasurer-reports-minutes/

Please contact Rich Slosky (Treasurer) or Michael Luksich (Secretary) if you have any questions.

Elections in April
Nominations in March

See President's message for more info

Volunteer Board

WEBSITE link: Board and Bylaws web page
Member emails and phone numbers in the Member Directory on the AWA website.



A NOTE from the Editor …

Hello

I know I am a broken record – another month has flown by!! It was crazy busy with our trip to WA and then the week of classes/demos – then getting knocked down with severe bronchitis for 10 days – but it always feels great when you feel human again! A big thank you to all who make the all-day demos and classes such a great success!

Chad Schimmel is always a favorite demonstrator – who will be our March demonstrator. His knowledge and easy-going presentations are always a hit. Come with those questions on resin, stabilizing or woodturning in general!

I enjoy the woodturning club, even though I'm not a woodturner! I am the computer nut with other hobbies than wood. For the last couple of years, I have been on the **Program Committee** with Don Mitchell. We have 2025 scheduled except for the professional turner in November. But this will be our **last year of scheduling the programs**. I actually think this is a fun way to volunteer – planning demonstrations. I will say we have lots of folks in our club who will demonstrate – which I guess other clubs struggle in that area. Our biggest goal is to always listen to the membership and what they want to see demonstrated. I will still be doing the computer work and online registration forms. It's a perfect time to come on to the committee with this year being done – to learn and get ready for the next year. Talk to Richard January (AWA President) or myself if interested.

Another area I hope to get out of is video editing – anyone out there like to play with video editing? Maybe a wife or child or grandchild? You get the MP4 files and do some editing on breaks, bloopers, etc. Let me know if you can help out.

Why am I getting out of these areas? Well, I told myself I wouldn't take on anything else without getting rid of a few things. ***I have some new ideas to do with the club and want to expand out those ideas.***

Spring is coming – although right now with 90-degree days, you would think we were there already! But that does mean it is fair time. The website lists the schedule, so you can see where volunteers are needed (or you can check what you signed up for).

March 1 (4:30 – 6pm) is the Woodworkers Source "Awards Reception - Party" in Tempe to show off the hundreds of wood projects that were turned in for their contest. It is fun to see the projects, visit with fellow members, enjoy the music and the food!! Hope to see you there.

Questions? Email me!

Pat Jones
AWA Webmaster, Newsletter editor

March 15	Noon to 3:30pm	5757 N Central Ave,
Meeting/Demo	Zoom available	Phoenix, AZ 85012