



The December 6th BAWA Meeting will be our Christmas Party!

Note the meeting is on the first Saturday of December!

President's Message Harvey Klein

Fellow Woodturners,

At this time I would like to thank the membership for all their help and support over the last year. I would also like give thanks to the other directors and board members for their time and support that made my job easier. I only ask you to give the next group the same help and support as you have given before. We have to remember our group runs on volunteerism and we must be grateful for the time those who volunteer give up to make this club better for all of us.

Please remember the Christmas Party and gift exchange. The gift exchange is voluntary and if you participate please bring a gift like that which you would like to receive.

I would also like to wish you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. As I will not be able to be at the Christmas party and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

P.S.

Band Saw Blades

If you are interested in placing

an order please let me know. I would like to order in the near future.

Harvey

Leo's Corner Leo Lichtman

We are constantly looking for ways to improve our turning abilities. I am suddenly aware of a means we are neglecting--that is the critique. I can recall a meeting, years ago, when Judy Ditmer critiqued our work, and I think we all got a lot out of it. Many of you were not members then. Some of you had probably not even bought your first lathe

For those of you who have never seen it, "What is a critique?" An accomplished turner, someone of recognized authority, examines each piece that is brought in by the members, and comments on its good and bad points. Sometimes a bowl falls just short of perfection in a way the turner did not realize. Some of us repeat the same mistake, over and over, and no one mentions it--indeed, maybe no one notices. All of us could benefit from some good critiques. And, it is not only the creator of a piece who benefits. Everyone in the group sees the work and hears

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BAWA Christmas Party

The December meeting is our annual fun-filled Christmas Party. Lots to eat and drink. The best part of the party is the "gift exchange". Bring a turning related gift to exchange with a fellow member. It might be a nice piece of wood, a tool, a book, some turning supplies, or maybe one of own turnings. Not too expensive — something in the \$10 to \$15 range is best. The gift exchange follows a complex protocol which ensures that if you get something really nice, someone else will likely take it from you in exchange for another gift. Lots of fun!

BAWA Members are Big Spenders!

At least that is the case when it comes to buying tools and equipment at Woodcraft. Last July Jim Rodgers announced a program where Woodcraft would return to the club 3% of the value of receipts submitted by our members for money spent at their stores. Since that time, we have turned a total of \$17839.46 which yields \$535.18 to the club treasury. Way to go Jim and way to go BAWA!



The Bay Area Woodturner's Association is a local chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. Our purpose is to provide a meeting place for local turners to share ideas and techniques and to educate the general public regarding the art of turning. The Association meets the second Saturday of each month at the Senior Center in San Ramon. The Association periodically sponsors exhibitions and demonstration by local and internationally known turners.

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BAWA Officers Meeting Notice

BAWA Board of directors meetings are held at Denica's Cafe (in the same center as WoodCraft) 8AM to 9:30AM. On the day of the scheduled club meeting. Board meetings are open to all members. Contact Harvey Klein if you would like to be on the agenda.

Presidents Challenge 2003

January: *Pen*

February: *Turned box*

March: *Candle sticks*

April: *Plate or Platter*

May: *Members competition*

June: *Segmented vessel*

July: *A pair of hair sticks*

August: *Natural edge something*

September: *Small blank shalenge. Each person starts with the same size blank and we see what he or she can come up with*

October: *An inlay of something other than wood.*

November: *Members competition*

December: *Ornaments*

The President's Challenge is organized to prepare members for our club competitions. The next club competition to be held in November will consist of the following categories:

- Natural Edge Bowl
- Multi-Axis Turning
- Box w/Threaded Lid
- Footstool
- Flower
- Segmented Turning
- Mixed Media

Competition is grouped into three skill levels: Novice, Advanced, and Professional.

Club Meeting Dates & Topics 2003

January 11: Turning a box
Robert Whitworth

February 8: Wood finishing.
Ron Ashby

March 8: Thread Chasing.
Dick Jessing

April 12: Stave bowl construction.
Jim Rodgers

May 10: Vacuum chucking.
Richard Sherry

June 14: Turning in Mexico.
Jesus Morales/Lou Gonzalez

July 12: Darth Vader Box.
Don White

August 9: Photographing Your Turnings, Shipman, Small, Deadrick

September 13: Polymer Clay
by Barbara McGuire

October 4 (1st Sat.): Segmented Turning; *Linda Salter*

November 8: Christmas Ornaments. Club Competition

December 6 (1st Sat.): Christmas party

Note the 1st Saturday dates for October and December meetings!

Leo's Corner continued from page 1

the comments, so everyone is stimulated to look at the fine points, and everyone gets stirred up.

Can we do this at our meetings? The suggestion has been made to have the judges at our semi-annual competitions critique the entries. This suggestion has its merits, but I really doubt that we could do it this way. The competition is already having participation problems, difficulties with how to do the judging, and limitations on time, so I say let's not muddy that water any further.

How about having a critique of the items that come in to the President's Challenge and Show and Tell? First of all, not everyone wants to be subjected to public criticism, so it would have to be voluntary. Let's say we have a special tag that is attached, or a special area of the table, for items that are to be critiqued. Then there is the question of who would do the critiquing. I would like to see it done by people who are not regulars at our meetings. Maybe experts from other clubs, or expert/professionals who USED to be BAWA members.

One solution that makes sense to me would be to make the critique a program for a whole meeting once in a while. And we could invite a respected turner from the community to evaluate our work. That month, members would bring in whatever pieces that want to have criticized. These could be a members best work, or, maybe

some pieces that fall short in some elusive way.

I am groping here. I am sure there is a way to do this, but I wonder whether someone will read this and come up with a better suggestion. If anyone does have an idea, I'd love to hear it, but better yet, I think Hal Bain, as our new Program Chairman, should hear it.

Leo

Update on Ron Newcomb

Many have asked how longtime BAWA member, Ron Newcomb, is doing following his stroke earlier this year. The good news is that he is making progress in the recovery of his right side, but has not been able to get back to woodturning. To exercise his artistic talents he is taking oil painting classes twice a week, and learning to paint with his left hand.

Ron says his email is presently screwed up, so the best way to get in touch with him is to call him at the number listed in the BAWA membership list.

Dues are Due

Your BAWA membership dues for 2004 are due. The dues are \$40/year, and provide you with great meetings, our club book and video lending library, the club store which can easily save you the annual membership alone, and access to our monthly wood raffle and wood alerts. See Rich Bonnington, Del Morisette, or Robert Whitworth, our new treasurer, starting next month.

Sudden Oak Death

Editor's Note: The following from Senator Boxer is not intended as a political message, but an item of interest to woodturners.

Dear Friend:

For a decade, the majestic oak trees of California have been under attack by a disease known as "Sudden Oak Death." For almost as long, I have been working in the U.S. Senate to provide funding so that we may better understand this disease, fight its spread and protect this wonderful symbol of California.

I am pleased to let you know that the United States Senate has approved a request I made earlier this year for a total of \$5.7 million for research to stop the spread of Sudden Oak Death Syndrome, which has killed countless oak trees in Northern California. The funding comes from both the Agriculture Appropriations bill and the Interior Appropriations bill.

Sudden Oak Death was first discovered in Marin County in 1994. It has since killed many trees in California and threatens to change the landscape of California. There has been some good news in recent months, as scientists have discovered a new treatment that may slow the spread of the disease. We need to continue to expand research in pursuit of knowledge that will enable us to slow the spread of this disease, and that will lead us to find ways to prevent it from killing this significant symbol of California.

If you have questions or ideas about saving California's oaks or any other federal matter, I encourage you to send your message to <http://boxer.senate.gov/contact/webform.cfm>

Sincerely,
Barbara Boxer
United States Senator

President's Challenge

No President's Challenge was held last month,. The December challenge is a Christmas Ornaments.

Show & Tell

- Bill Small — Carved Bowl
- Brad Adams — Burned Rim Bowl by Molly Winton, Natural Edge Bole from Black Locust, Camphor Vase
- Harvey Klein — Ornaments, Walnut Door Stops, Elm Platter
- Jim Abreu — Ornaments
- Fred Deadrick — German Tool Catalogs
- Rich Sherry — Oak Plate
- Leo Lichtman — Hip Joint Canes
- Dennis Heitz — Ornament
- Phil Degroot — Bowl
- Wayne Shipman — Vase and Square Edge Bowl (in progress)
- Bob Ellis — First Lidded Box of Banskia Pod

Wood Raffle

- Dave Morris — Juniper, Redwood and Liquid Amber
- Jim Lehman — Ash
- Wayne Shipman — Black Locust, Plum, Catalina Iron Wood

During the past few months we have hit some highs-and some lows-in raising money through the wood raffle. On a good day we can raise \$130-150; on a poor day we raise only \$50-60. The difference is the quality and amount of wood donated and support of members in buying tickets.

As you prepare for a meeting remember to toss a piece of wood from your woodpile into the car. It doesn't have to be your biggest or best piece of burl, but it should be something you would want to spend time turning. Nothing is too large or small. One person's castoff is another persons treasure. Please

identify the wood and/or date when the piece was cut. When any of us find a tree down, there is usually more wood than anyone can turn. Remember to save a couple pieces for the raffle.

The money we raise helps all of us in the club. Remember the wood raffle.

Candlestick Collaborative Project

Eight BAWA members participated in the Candlestick Collaborative Project, where each turner designed on paper a candlestick, and then a randomly selected second person turned the design. The designer/turner pairs were:

- Ros Harper/ Fred Deadrick
- Jim Abreu/Robert Whitworth

- Wayne Shipman/Harvey Klein
- Fred Deadrick/Dave Lambert
- Robert Whitworth/Wayne Shipman
- Dave Lambert/John Bocks
- John Bocks/Ros Harper
- Harvey Klein/Jim Abreu

The photo below shows the finished candle pairs. To make a matched pair turned out to be one of the biggest challenges.



November Club Competition

Over 85 entries were submitted to the bi-annual club competition. BAWA has returned to awarding ribbons for 1st through 3rd place, with a medal for the best of show.



Wayne Cowden — 1st Place Professional Segmented Bowl category.

Mike O'Connell — 1st Place Beginner Natural Edge Bowl Category.



Best of Show was Wayne Shipman with his Multi-axis Candle Sticks

COMMUNITY PROJECT IN WALNUT CREEK

By Wayne Shipman

Once again the Bay Area Woodturners Association has been invited to give new life to a fallen tree. This is a project exclusive to members of B.A.W.A. The site of this new project is the Ruth Bancroft Garden. The Garden is located at 1500 Bancroft Road in Walnut Creek, California (www.ruthbancroftgarden.org). The Ruth Bancroft Garden is part of what was once the Bancroft Farm, a 400-acre property bought by publisher Hubert Howe Bancroft in the 1880s to grow pears and walnuts. The tree is a 280 year-old, give or take a few years, Valley Oak measuring 14 feet and 7 inches around its circumference. Most of us have experience working with this species of wood. This is the same type of wood we used for the The Big Oak Tree Exhibit at the Bedford Gallery last summer. Some of us did our best work with this type of wood and had our highest sales to date. Now we have another opportunity to bring recognition to our club and us as individual turners.

The details of this new adventure have been in the works for the last six months. Our member-at-large has been working with the Bancroft Garden to make this a fun event for those of us who become involved. Once the wood has been harvested, we woodturners will have two years to process the wood and complete our arts and crafts projects. At the end of this time period we will bring our pieces to the Bancroft Garden to be sold at a special event organized by The Garden. The turners will receive 70% of the sale price and the B. G. will keep 30%. The Bancroft Garden has long experience in planning this type of event. They will do the promotion, provide the location, set up the event and provide the point of sales. It sounds to me like we are going to get paid for something we love to do. Your presence is not required but appreciated.



The 280 year old Big Oak at the Ruth Bancroft Garden before being taken down



Robert Whitworth is shown cutting a section of the trunk. There remains lots of wood for all interested turners

Everyone who has a lathe is included in this project. The Bancroft Garden has asked that we make small affordable items as well as items that come from that journey into the right sides of our brains. The only requirement for the pieces is that it is made from the tree and that participants are members of the B.A.W.A. The harvesting of this tree will continue in groups and as individuals until the tree has been consumed. Harvesting green wood is another way to say that time is of the essence. This tree should remain stable in the present weather but it is wise to collect this wood sooner than later. We will be asked to sign a liability waiver before we are permitted to do any harvesting.

Maynard "Bud" Rotermund will be the project coordinator. Bud can be reached at 925-938-3040 or 925-788-7147. Bud is a member of BAWA and a volunteer at the Bancroft Garden. He is in the perfect position to keep us informed and involved and he will coordinate the sales event in 2005. Contact Bud for access to the wood. Since this will be largely an individual effort, it is important to get started now. Let it be known to others if you have a chainsaw and are willing to cut wood for them. If you do not have a chainsaw, you can help in other ways.

A Letter of appreciation from the City of San Ramon

November 7, 2003

Dear Mr. Klein,

On behalf of the San Ramon Senior Center I would like to express my deep appreciation to you and the Bay Area Woodturners for the donation of wood turned items for the first annual Craft-A-Fair. The number and variety of items was so impressive and the workmanship superb.

The total amount raised over the weekend was just shy of \$800.00. All of the money will support the Outreach Programs provided here at the Senior Center. The monetary support is very important to keep such services as care management, nutrition program, express van, support groups and computers in place.

Special thanks go to Hal Bain who coordinated this event and Bill Small and his wife for pricing and supervising the sales at the craft fair. It wouldn't have gone as well without their dedication.

Thank you again to all that were involved. If we can ever help you in anyway please let me know.

Sincerely,
Teri Mountford, Program Manager

Save Your Woodcraft Receipts

By special arrangement, Jim Rodgers has secured a way for BAWA to receive a 3% rebate from Woodcraft for each dollar spent in the Dublin store. Simply deposit your receipts (or copies) in the box located on the Show & Tell table at the next meeting. This is an on-going rebate, so what more justification do you need to buy that new tool!



2870 Creston Road
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First Class Mail

Address
Correction
Requested