

BAY AREA



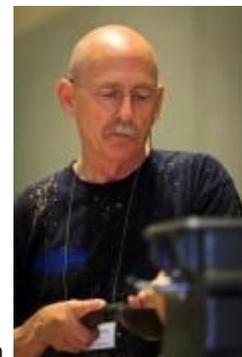
WOODTURNERS
ASSOCIATION
A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION
LOCAL CHAPTER AAW

April 2018

Volume 22, Issue 4

John Jordan, Presenter for April 14, 2018
8:30 AM to 4:00 PM

John Jordan, our professional presenter for April, has been a woodturner for more than thirty years. He has given demonstrations for or given hands-on lessons to thousands of woodturners in most states in the US as well as eight other countries. The turned and carved vessels that he makes are featured in numerous private and corporate collections, as well as the permanent collections of more than twenty-five museums. They include seven pieces in the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution, and the recent acquisition of two pieces by the prestigious Victoria and Albert Museum in London.



John's work is frequently seen in publications in several countries as well as articles written by him. In addition to his most recent video on the aesthetics and properties of wood, he has also produced two previous best-selling woodturning videos, which received very favorable reviews. He can also be seen on YouTube demonstrating his turning techniques.

John's pieces are initially turned on the lathe, from fresh, green logs, using a number of techniques and tools that have evolved over the years. Each piece is then hand carved and textured, using a variety of different hand and small powered tools. This texturing process is very labor intensive, and can take as much as several days to weeks to complete. There is little room for error during this carving; one small slip can ruin the piece. A light lacquer finish is applied to most pieces, including the dyed work.

The pieces he creates are finely detailed where he uses color and patterns in the wood to bring out the best of each form. The texturing and carving he adds to his pieces create visual and tactile contrast that create beautiful results. He takes simple pieces and uses his creativity to make powerful and emotional vessels. They reflect John's years of experience and dedication to his artistic creations.

We think you will enjoy his presentation on April 14, coming away inspired with ideas on creating your own intimate and personal turnings. John will be demonstrating a textured hollow vessel.





BAY AREA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION
LOCAL CHAPTER AAW

Club Meetings

Meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each month unless otherwise noted.

8:30 doors open for setup, use store and library, swap ideas, view displays

9:00—12:30 meeting and demo

Meetings will be held at the PHEC Woodturning Center, 1 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill, CA.

See bayareawoodturners.org/ for directions and club information.

BAWA Officers Meeting -

Officer meetings are open to all members. Contact John Cobb at: president@bayareawoodturners.org if you would like to be on the agenda.

2018 Event Schedule

Apr 14th	John Jordan 8:30-4:00
May 10th	Utah Woodturning Symposium- Provo, Utah
May 19th	Robert Whitworth (Note change to 3rd Saturday) 8:30-12:30
June 9th	Mike Budesilich & Jay Holland 8:30-12:30
June 14-17	AAW Woodturning Symposium Portland, Oregon
July 14th	Turn for Troops 8:30 - 12:30

The Bay Area Woodturners 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 usually meets the second Saturday of each month. The Association periodically sponsors exhibitions and demonstrations by local and internationally known turners.

President
John Cobb
president@bayareawoodturners.org

Vice President
Dave Bentley
vp@bayareawoodturners.org

Secretary
Anna Duncan
secretary@bayareawoodturners.org

Treasurer
Peter Wolff
treasurer@bayareawoodturners.org

Member at Large
Kim Wolfe
memberatlarge@bayareawoodturners.org

President Emeritus
Joel Albert
cobbemail@gmail.com

Pleasant Hill Adult Education (PHAE) Liaison
Jim Rodgers
Jlrogers236@comcast.net

Librarian
Cindy Navarro
librarian@bayareawoodturners.org

Membership
Hugh Bevin-Thomas & Karen Rice
membership@bayareawoodturners.org

Store Manager
Richard Kalish & Michele Freeze
storemanager@bayareawoodturners.org

Webmaster
Jeff Tanner & Greg Ketel
webmaster@bayareawoodturners.org

Newsletter Editor
Louie Silva
newslettereditor@bayareawoodturners.org

Video Coordinator
Dave Bentley, Larry Batti & Ed Steffenger
videocoordinator@bayareawoodturners.org

Woodmeister
Steve Griswold
woodmeister@bayareawoodturners.org

Educational Coordinator
Jan Blumer
educationalcoordinator@bayareawoodturners.org

Pro Demonstrator Liaison
John Cobb
Cobbemail@gmail.com

Staff Photographer
Rick Dietrich

Social Coordinator
TBA

Rudy Lopez, March Presenter



BAWA's March meeting was highlighted by professional Rudy Lopez who came in for a morning demonstration followed by an afternoon class. Rudy was a fantastic presenter displaying excellent skill and tool control combined with a comecerate skill of telling stories while turning.

The demonstration started with a winged bowl made from a beautiful spalted Oak crotch. The blank came from a healthy tree that had actually fallen on Rudy's house during the September hurricane and spalted over the following five months. His preference for this project is to turn the finished piece from green wood and let it warp; the resulting reshaping giving the piece a natural organic feel that he embraces. Often times he carves the foot into three small points so that it maintains stability regardless any warping.



Rudy's second project was a thin stemmed goblet made from green wood. Straight grained hardwood without knots is critical for this project as you don't want to weaken the stem with cross grain. After removing the corners from the 10"x2" blank, he drilled the cup first and then hollowed the inside to a pleasing shape. This allows the maximum amount of mass in the blank to avoid harmonics and potential warping. After the inside is turned and

sanded, Rudy then turns the outside using a lamp to enable very thin walls. The lamp shines through the wood highlighting any thick spots allowing for 1/16" walls and thinner. Rudy's preference is to use a limb with an offset pith to make a natural edge goblet, otherwise a 2x2x10 blanks works fine.



After the inside is completed, Rudy used his bowl gouge to thin the stem down to less than 1/8", unfortunately time ran out and he could only finish a 6" stem. Parting off the project was a tricky part, having a 3/8" tall parting tool is necessary to get up inside the base.

Critical in turning all his projects, Rudy emphasizes riding the bevel with a sharp tool and good tool control to achieve the best cut. His preference in gouge angle is 40 degrees for what he calls his meat cleaver - removing mass quickly and then 60 degrees for the "filet knife" producing clean finishing cuts.

In the event a scraper is needed, he grinds a negative rake detail at 50 degrees in both directions. He feels that provides a good combination of sharpness and longevity of the burr. Having both the top and bottom ground to the same angle gives you the utility of two scrapers, one side for the outside and the other side for the inside. Rudy likes and reps Thompson tools, made from cryogenically treated powdered metal (CPM10V). If you want to know more, check out thompsonlathetools.com



The handouts for turning Rudy's winged bowl and goblet project can be found at: www.rudolphlopez.com/handouts

In the afternoon, Rudy taught a goblet turning class for 11 club members. Everyone completed a goblet and got a great feel for Rudy's process. A few projects even grew wings (some a couple times) and flew from the lathes. Fortunately all wayward goblets were caught and returned to their chucks for final finishing cuts. A great afternoon for all involved.





President's Chatter

April 2018

We are very fortunate to live in a Mediterranean climate where almost everything grows, including a wide variety of hardwoods that are great for turning. Recently I was offered a camphor log which I had not turned for years. Anyone who has turned green camphor and anyone who lives with someone who turns green camphor will tell you it REALLY smells. If you have not had the pleasure, it's like taking a sponge bath with Vick's Vapor Rub. Some, like my wife will tell you it's an awful smell and they can't stand it. I on the other hand don't mind it as there are far worse smells. Spending time with a skunk in a phone booth is worse and I can tell you that my daughter's car smelled far worse than my camphor infused shop after our cat spent the night in her SUV (still working on that smell)....

Okay, I apologize for digressing, getting back to the topic at hand: searching out and turning new wood is part of what makes woodturning fun. Aside from smelling like Vick's, Camphor is a wonderful wood to turn. The oil that permeates the air in your shop is infused throughout the wood making it feel like it has been soaked in soap. Because of that, it is one of the easiest hardwoods to turn and finish. Bay Laurel, also in the "boy that smells" department, is a joy to turn and likewise easy to finish. Black Acacia on the other hand is really beautiful when finished, but getting there can be a challenge. Turning Acacia is all about sharp tools. If they are sharp it cuts really well, when tools dull and unfortunately that is rather quickly, it's a bear to work through. Last month I turned and cored my first piece of Madrone burl and it was an amazing experience. If all wood was that easy to cut, woodturning would be more popular than golf. So I encourage you to seek out woods you have not tried and give them a turn. Especially green woods in our area, the price is right and who knows you might just find a new favorite.

Now onto club news. This coming Saturday, John Jordan will be driving all the way across country to give us a fantastic demo. John is one of woodturning's pioneers and his work is well known and collected internationally. He is in the top 10 of artists who have pushed woodturning from a craft into the sphere of art and personal expression. We are fortunate to have him, so I hope everyone can make this meeting. If you do have a conflict, our esteemed AV crew will film the presentation and make it available to BAWA members online. If you don't know John Jordan's work, just google him and you will see.

April is a full length meeting so that means we will have another fantastic wood raffle at noon. Please bring something to donate if you can, otherwise I am sure there is something in that pile that will be new to turn. Rumor has it, there might even be some camphor in the raffle and bowl blanks in the store:) I look forward to seeing y'all (J Jordan is from the South) on Saturday.

Keep turning.
John Cobb
President

Rudy Lopez's club meeting video can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agKyRaqj2Tk&feature=youtu.be>

Tips and Technique

Continuation of Pyrography tips

To continue with the pyrography information, I will talk more about the process and equipment. First I think that one should really think about how much pyrography they would really do. I think that it is easy to be caught up in buying equipment thinking that it is the tools that will make them good at the task.

There are woodburners that cost as little as \$15 up to \$200+. A lot can be accomplished with an inexpensive burner. Some of the lower cost ones even have multiple tips.

The rest of additional materials that you will find helpful to have before you begin your practice and learning prior to doing a project on a piece you have turned.

- Sandpaper, or a sander to prepare the surface and also fine grit or foam backed emery boards to sand lightly after burning. A white erasure to erase lines after burning. Do not use colored pencils as they will leave marks that will have to be sanded to remove
- Graphite paper to trace a design
- Tracing paper
- You can also get stick on designs that gourd artists use for pyrography
- Tape for holding your tracing paper to the piece
- Ruler, compass, drafting triangle to measure borders
- 2B or mechanical pencil, soft enough to erase on wood and not leave an impression
- Tips are numerous, but you can do a lot of work with only a few and get wonderful results
- Tips must be cleaned to prevent build up which will cause poor burning, you can use fine sandpaper, and knife and then hone the tip to get a clean sharp burn.
- Needle nose pliers for removing nibs from solid-point and interchangeable wire burners. Variable temp burners will require a small screwdriver

Once you have finished your burning you can either leave it as it is or you can color it using:

- Colored pencils, water colors, markers
- Oil paints and solvent for clean up
- Small tile for mixing paints
- A mat to protect your work area so it isn't burned. I use a thin silicone-cutting mat, which tolerates high temperature if the pen touches it. I use a ceramic chopstick rest to help prevent burning the mat or myself.

It is important to practice and to learn how your burner works on different woods. Make a practice board by creating a grid. Practice using each pen to make a variety of lines, designs and mark what pen it is and then you will know how to do it the next time.



by Cindy Navarro

Book Reviews

The Lathe Book

"The Lathe Book by Ernie Conover is a book that I think every woodturner should own, especially new turners. It is a handbook that will help both the old and new turner.

The book follows an order that takes you from knowing nothing about a lathe, through the process of deciding what lathe will work best for you. Learning how to set up a lathe and the shop that will make the most effective space for using a lathe.

There is a chapter on various ways to hold work on the lathe for many different projects from using screws, chucks, jam chucks, and glue ups. How to set up a vacuum chuck with parts needed

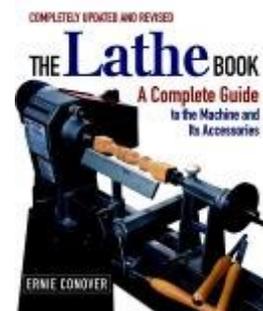
Next comes a chapter on accessories that you can buy or make. Things like a spindle rest, other items like arm rests, sharpening equipment and how to make your own sharpening attachments. This chapter also includes safety equipment, as well as, information on special techniques to do with a router and other tools.

Chapter Six is on tools, the use of each tool with information about each, how to make tools and how to sharpen the various tools. The detail is helpful and good information regarding how to use them.

Chapter Seven is all about how to maintain and repair your lathe. It begins with maintenance but also gives details about replacing bearings, drive pulleys, removing seized Morse tapers, modifying lathes and also restoring lathes.

Chapter Eight is all about how to turn, especially for new turners, how to sand your pieces to achieve a good surface and then how to finish your piece.

I found this book to be very interesting to read, even though I have been turning for over 10 years. I found something in each chapter with the chapter on accessories and maintenance to really contain some information that was I feel will be helpful to my turning and keeping my lathe in the best shape. I will add some of that information to my regular monthly lathe maintenance.



Robert Whitworth, May 19, 2018

My Journey Into Animatronics



If you have ever wondered what your next step might be after you have learned to turn bowls, hollow forms, pens and plates, this meeting will give you one person's view of his next step after woodturning. Our guest speaker, who will be addressing BAWA on May 19th, the third Saturday of the month of May, will open your eyes to some new ideas that you can add to your woodworking skills.

Robert, a man who served on the BAWA board for more that 11 years had an interest in Animatronics, or small robot-like machines made out of wood that has been turned on a lathe. That sounds easy, but the interesting part is how he makes everything work.

There are cars, people and machines that catch your imagination and cause all of us to wonder, how did he do that and can I make something that moves like Robert does.

Our meeting will not have a turning demo but the life story of Robert in his journey through the turning world to a place he loves. There will be lots of stuff to see and touch, visual machines to watch and wonder about and a good story to go with it.

I think you will find this meeting unique. It is just out beyond a normal turning meeting, taking you down a path to a new world where you can use your woodturning skills to create something new. We hope you will join us for this journey in May.



BAWA recognized for our contribution to the Ruth Bancroft Garden

Bowls crafted by our club from wood harvested at the Bancroft Garden have all sold in just a few months. The 27 items turned from Deodar Cedar generated over \$2500. Added to our previous donations a few year ago, utilizing Chilean Acacia, our contributions have provided over \$5000 towards building a new demonstration pavilion on their site. This recent effort was the result of hard work by Bob Nolan, John Langen, John Cobb, Jan Blumer, Dan Powell, Joel Albert, Tony Wolcott and Dave Morris.

The Garden is planning to recognize our effort by placing a tile on their new donor wall honoring our club. This wall is being built now while foundation work is in progress for the new building.

They also wanted me to pass on "their appreciation for our continuing support of the Garden".

Dave Morris



BAWA Classified Ads



We want members and others with items to sell or trade, services to render or if you're just looking to find a specific item from fellow BAWA members. Please send ads to Louie Silva at: newslettereditor@bayareawoodturners.org

You can't beat the price...FREE!!

Membership News

By Hugh Bevan-Thomas



Membership Update

Our membership has not changed during this last month. We still have 134 active members, which is close to our normal number.

Rockler Helps BAWA Members

BAWA members receive a 10% discount when purchasing directly at the Concord Rockler Store at:

<http://www.rockler.com/retail/stores/ca/concord-store>.

Mention your BAWA membership when checking out, to receive your discount. Rockler also donates part of the proceeds back to the club which help support our Holiday Party raffle.



DON'T FORGET!

Bring some of that wood you have taking up space in your shop to share in our monthly raffle.



March Show and Tell



Cindy Navarro-
Screw Drivers & Pepper Mill



Joel Albert-
Ringed Goblet



Jean-Louis Maynier-
Spalted Coast Oak Platter



Harry Levin-
Vessel



Ed Steffinger-
Compound Miter Vessels



Larry Batti-
Segmented Vase, Small Vase and Ball

Continued on next page

*March Show and Tell
Cont.*



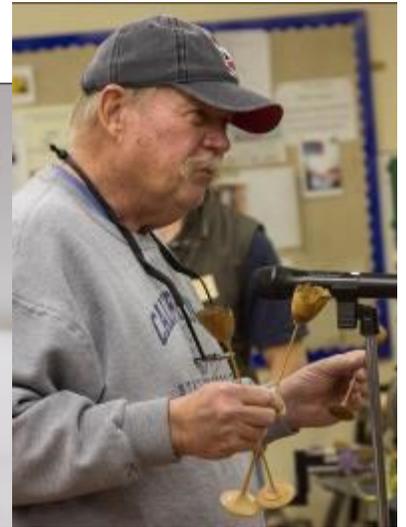
Leonard Stanton-
Apple & Oak Bowls



Peter Twelker-
Vortex Bowls



David Fleisig-
Curly Bowl



Bob Nolan-
Thin Stemmed Goblets



Bob Bean-
Salt & Pepper Shakers



John Cobb-
Spalted Hollow Form

Kiln for Drying Wood

By Larry Zubke

To speed up the drying process and improve the odds of successfully preserving wood blanks, I built a drying kiln. A kiln provides a stable environment by maintaining a consistent temperature and humidity. For research, I spoke to woodturners in my local club and also found articles on the Internet. I discovered that there are no hard-and-fast rules for building a kiln, so I took several ideas and combined them into something that would work for me.

A small chest freezer that had quit working began the project. The metal walls with insulation between them help retain heat, making this kiln economical to run, even in wintertime. For safety, I installed a hasp and padlock on the door.

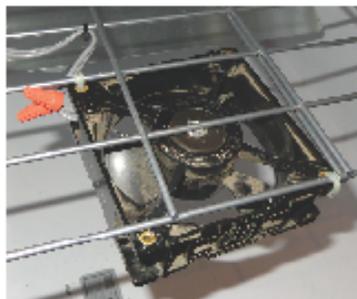


Mounted on the left-hand side of the kiln are the controls, power switch and outlet, as well as the greenhouse controller. Note the padlock for safety.

I removed the compressor and mounted casters on one side to stand the freezer up so it can move around easily. The vertical positioning of the door allows easy access. An upright freezer or refrigerator might work better, but this unit takes up less space.

I installed open-wire shelves to support the green wood and to allow air to move freely within the kiln. A watertight light fixture with two 60-watt incandescent lightbulbs mounted on the base of the freezer provides the heat source. A thin sheet metal plate sits over the bulbs to protect them from dripping water. The metal also retains heat from the bulbs, slowly releasing it after the power is off.

A greenhouse thermostat with a remote sensor monitors and



A fan is mounted underneath the wire shelf.



regulates the temperature inside the kiln by automatically turning the bulbs on or off so that a consistent temperature is maintained. I drilled four 1/2" (13mm) holes in the bottom of the freezer below the lightbulbs and four matching holes in the upper rear wall. Heat convection from the bulbs draws outside air into the freezer through the bottom holes. Warm humid air exits the freezer through the top holes.

After my first batch of wood was dry, I decided to install a 5" (13cm) fan, salvaged from computer equipment. This fan runs all the time and helps circulate the air, which speeds up the drying process. Without the fan, the first batch of wood took approximately seven weeks to dry. The second batch took only five weeks.



The lightbulbs are mounted on the back of the kiln near the bottom, a sheet of metal covers the bulbs, and the holes are drilled through the bottom of the freezer.

I generally start by setting the temperature at 80°F (27°C) for the first week. At week two, I increase the temperature to 85°F (29°C). The third week, I raise the temperature to 90°F (32°C) and leave it there until the wood is dry.

During the first few weeks, the humidity is 70 to 80

percent, so the air exiting the kiln often condenses on the outside of the holes. As the drying process progresses, the humidity continues to drop. The time it takes for the blanks to finish drying depends upon: the time of year the tree was cut, wood species, diameter, rough-turned wall thickness, stor-



The sensor for the greenhouse controller is mounted to the ceiling inside the kiln. The four holes drilled through the upper back wall of the freezer can be seen.



A 13" (33cm) cottonwood bowl, rough turned from green wood, weighed 5.09 lb (2.3kg) June 11 when it was placed in the kiln. It weighed 3.43 lb (1.6kg) July 15, and 3.42 lb (1.6kg) July 22. This bowl stopped losing weight, is dry, and ready to be finish turned.

age-environment temperature, and humidity.

To measure the wood's dryness, I weigh the largest and thickest blanks with a digital fishing scale and write the weight and date on each blank. At first, I check the blanks monthly, and then weekly as the weight loss begins to slow.

When the blanks stop losing weight (moisture), they can be finish turned. ■

Larry Zubke has been an avid woodworker all of his life, learning from his father and other family members. Since joining the Dakota Woodturners, his focus shifted to woodturning.

CRAFT SUPPLIES 10% DISCOUNT ORDER

The 10% discount applies to any published price (including sale items, close-outs, etc.) on almost all items. Craft Supplies has a new catalog that includes new items with a different item numbering system. There have been some price increases as well so don't use old catalogs. If you don't have the latest catalog please look on-line to pick your loot and check prices and item numbers.

Orders are placed by filling out an electronic order form which is available on the BAWA website.
E-mail the form to Dean Adkins (adkd@chevron.com) with all the requested information:

Member name, phone number and e-mail address
Catalog item number
Catalog page number
Item description
Quantity ordered
List / sale price (before 10% discount)



You can call Dean (925-998-4111) to place an order, but must follow up with an e-mail to confirm all the required information.

