

BAY AREA



**WOODTURNERS**  
ASSOCIATION  
A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION  
LOCAL CHAPTER AAW

August 2014

Volume 18, Issue 8

## BAWA Annual Summer BBQ

Date: Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> 2014

Time 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Location: Pleasant Hill Park #3, 147 Gregory Lane

What to Bring: Salads, Deserts and Cold Drinks



Pack some food, bring some tools or wood to swap, finish that Camp Fork, and prepare to eat a big lunch and have some fun. We have a great day planned for next Saturday at the same park facility where we were last year. The activities start around 10:00 with set-up followed by the tool and wood swap. We will start the fire about 11:00 and have lunch ready by noon. With the group finishing desert under the gazebo we will have show and tell, followed by the Camp Fork Presidents Challenge.

The tool swap is a great way to make room for new tools in your shop or find a new home for some of that wood you have collected and stored for years. The Camp Fork Challenge should be a fun project with plenty of opportunity to be creative. We are looking for functional to fancy, natural or colored, mini to maximum, all-wood or hybrid, you decide what floats your boat. We will display all of the turnings and ask for the story behind the project as part of Show and Tell.

As in the past the club will provide the burgers, brats and buns (the 3 B's) along with all the necessary serving utensils, plates, cups and condiments. We need you to bring the creative food such as salads, deserts and cold drinks to share. The food will be set-up buffet style with the volunteer cooks providing the meat for you to choose and build your own way. We need some help setting up and cleaning up so plan to come a little early or stay a little late. The site is reserved for our function exclusively so there is no rush to leave. If you like to cook and can help out with the BBQ please call or send me an Email. This is my favorite social event of the year, so come and have some fun and meet new friends.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 16<sup>th</sup>

### Directions to Pleasant Hill Park:

Coming South: Exit at Gregory Lane, travel 0.4 miles west, destination is on your right.

Coming North: Exit at Monument Blvd., Turn left at overpass, turn right at Contra Costa Blvd., Turn left at Gregory Lane, travel 0.3 miles west, destination is on your right.



*2013 Tool swap/flea market*



*Winners of the 2013 Croquet Mallet Competition*



*Dean and Harry -- the cooks*



# 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

9:30—12:30 meeting and demo

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

See [bayareawoodturners.org/](http://bayareawoodturners.org/) for directions and club information.

### **BAWA Officers Meeting -**

Officer meetings are open to all members. Contact [Bill Mellberg](mailto:Bill Mellberg) if you would like to be on the agenda.

## 2014-2015 Event Schedule

Aug 16th	BBQ
Sept 13th	Jerry Kermode
Oct 11th	Larry Lew-Pyrography Illusion
Nov 8th	TBA
Dec	Xmas Party-Date to be Determined
Jan 10	TBA

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.

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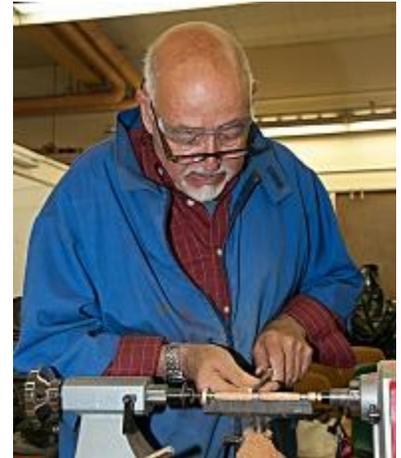
# Turning for the Troops



BAWA members  
“Turn for the Troops”



Jeff Tanner  
monitors all the  
activity



Harry Levin at the lathe

There were 30 BAWA members that participated in the “Turn for the Troops” event at the general membership meeting on July 12<sup>th</sup>. The members turned, finished and assembled 75 pens. There are also a few members who are turning an additional 50 pens at home to meet our goal of 125 pens. These pens will be delivered to Woodcraft and sent to the troops overseas.

Thanks to all of the members who participated in this very successful event and John Cobb for hosting the BBQ during the event.



Our leader complet-  
ing his pen project



Mike Vergino roughing  
out a pen blank



Michelle Brooks  
tackles another pen



Gary Goodshaw demonstrates  
proper sanding techniques



Arturo Gomez  
assembling a pen

## Jerry Kermode Visits BAWA in September



Jerry Kermode will be our demonstrator for the full day meeting on September 13th. Jerry is an internationally known woodturner specializing in natural edge vessels, most recently made out of redwood burl.

A professional woodworker and turner since 1972, Jerry has turnings in collections worldwide. He is a respected teacher, both privately and at various schools and national symposiums. Most recently he taught a week long seminar as part of the Masters Series at the Mt Diablo Woodturning Center in Pleasant Hill. The course received excellent reviews from BAWA members, so we are fortunate to have Jerry back for the entire club to experience. Jerry is also a master member of the Baulines Craft Guild, founded the Hawaii chapter of the AAW, and is an active member of the AAW POP committee.

For those who have not spent any time with Jerry, he is known as much for his sense of humor and friendly manner as for his ability with the gouge. He teaches and practices “the art of non-violent woodturning,” helping people to understand the subtler nuances of cutting wood without fear or trepidation. Jerry’s demonstration will present skills and knowledge that will be valuable for beginners to experts - certainly a meeting not to miss.



### CRAFT SUPPLIES 10% DISCOUNT ORDER

The 10% discount applies to any published price (including sale items, close-outs, etc.) and there’s no tax and S&H is free 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](mailto: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.

## President's Message

August 2014



*Today my wife and I attended the American Craft Council Show at Fort Mason in San Francisco. This three day event is the premier exhibition of American Craft on the west coast. There were approximately 200 booths with jewelry, furniture, glass, fiber, ceramics, metal and wood on display and all for sale. Woodturners with booths at the show included Martha Collins, Jerry and Deborah Kermode as well as our own Elizabeth Lundberg. Barry and Laura Uden and Mike Shuler represented the West Bay Woodturners, All of these professional turners had beautiful turned wood for sale with lots of buyers on the first day of the show. In order for our members to have an opportunity to see turned wood at this skill level, the chapter board of directors postponed the regular 2nd Saturday meeting until the 3rd Saturday in August.*

*The Mt. Diablo Adult Education Center is closed for summer vacation this month, so our BBQ is always off-site. The August 16th club meeting will be held at Pleasant Hill Park #3 on Gregory Lane starting at 10:00 AM with a tool swap. The President's challenge is for members to turn a camp fork or marshmallow roaster and bring it on the 16th for an informal fun competition. The details are listed separately in this month's newsletter. I would also encourage you to bring your turned pieces from this month as we will also have a "show and tell" at the park. If you have turned pens for the Troops, please bring them to the BBQ so Jeff can finalize our goal of delivering 125 turned pens. The club will provide the hamburgers, brats, buns, condiments, serving supplies and some bottled water. We need the membership to bring salads, desserts and drinks, to complete the meal. I also need some cooks to volunteer to prepare the meat on the day of the BBQ. Please call or send me an Email [wjmellberg@comcast.net](mailto:wjmellberg@comcast.net) if you can help out with the cooking.*

*Our September 13th meeting will be an all-day professional demonstration with Jerry Kermode. Jerry is a great teacher with a "let's have fun" approach to wood turning. I took Jerry's "Masters Class" this summer that Jim Rodgers organized through the school and had a blast. John Cobb is working with Jerry to structure an all-day demonstration that we believe will be one of the most interesting and fun this year. You should look at the classes that are being offered this fall by the Mt. Diablo Adult Education organization. All of the instructors are members of Bay Area Woodturners Association (BAWA) and have developed some unique classes you will find interesting. Last month the Orinda Library invited these instructors to show their work which was displayed in two large glass cabinets inside the Library. It was an outstanding show and demonstrated the talent we have as a club.*

*Circle Saturday the 23rd of August to help turn pens at Rockler (541 Contra Costa Blvd.) in Pleasant Hill for the Susan G. Koman "Join us in the Fight" cure for breast cancer. There will be 5 lathes set-up in the store with all the components to turn and assemble pink and gold pens. Thanks to all the BAWA members who turned pens for the troops in July we produced 75 pens in two hours at the school and had some fun along the way. See you on Saturday, August 16th, bring your tools to swap, a camp fork, show and tell piece and a big appetite.*

*Respectfully, Bill Mellberg, BAWA President*

### President's Summer Challenge Camp Fork or Marshmallow Roaster

This summer the President's Challenge is to turn a Camp Fork or Marshmallow Roaster to use on August 16th. Fire-up your imagination and create a truly unique implement that can be either functional or fanciful. Use color, shape, size, or texture to define your creation which will likely be a spindle turning. It can be an "all wood" design or use metal for the business end; it's up to you how to interpret the challenge.

Bring your creation on the day of the BBQ; Saturday, August 16th for a fun competition and exhibition, then put it to good use with some treats after lunch. You have about 10 days to design, fabricate and complete this project, so get started and have some fun with this seasons challenge.



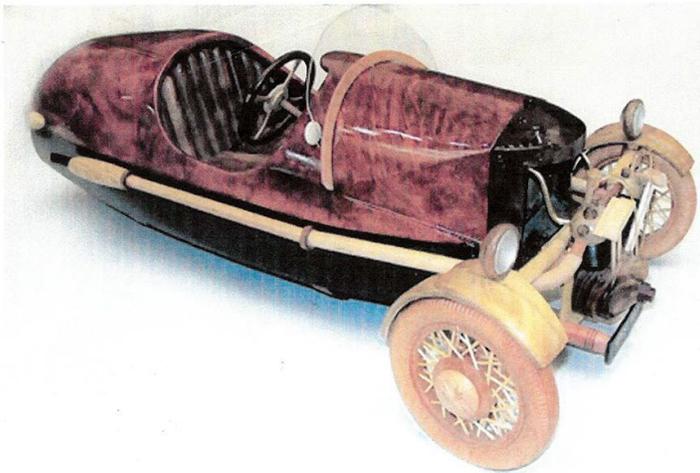
# West Bay Area Woodturners Celebrate 25th Anniversary

In June 1989, Paul Spinetti and Keven Segar broke away from a club in the East Bay to form a woodturners club closer to where they lived on the San Francisco Peninsula. The local Shopsmith store in San Carlos opened their doors to the club, which brought in new customers and gave the turners a central location to meet. Only three woodturners attended the first meeting, but by the end of the year, the club boasted 12 members. Fulfilling a need of local turners, the club grew to 26 by 1990. Today there are nearly 80.

The club meets monthly on second Tuesday evenings at a church in Los Alto. Initially, the club adopted the name The Bay Area Turner Society, which has been changed to the West Bay Area Woodturners. The club joined the AAW and in 1991 received first place in the Chapter Collaborative Challenge event with their rendition of an antique automobile.

The club holds a yearly Woodturners Show to educate the public and bring in new members. They regularly have local turners and well-known professionals demonstrate, and occasionally offer hands-on classes on weekends. The primary focus of the club is turning various forms of bowls, including segmented, natural-edged, and closed forms, and educating and promoting woodturning in their community.

—Grant Allison  
Courtesy of AAW



The West Bay Area Turner Society's first-place entry in AAW's 1991 Chapter Collaborative Challenge.

## BAWA Classified Ads



**For Sale-Grizzly Dust Collector, Model #G1029.  
Still in box. \$270**

**Call Gilbert Amador-(925)339-3704**

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: [banjohead@comcast.net](mailto:banjohead@comcast.net).

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

## Membership News

*We've added 2 new members in July. They are Gary Goodshaw, of Walnut Creek and Kermit Perlmutter of Berkeley.*

*Our welcome to both of you and we hope you will*





# Trees of the Bay Area #6 *Liriodendron tulipifera* tulip tree and #7 *Araucaria heterophylla* Norfolk Island Araucaria

By John Doyen and Tony Wolcott

I thought we would deal with two trees that have two aspects in common. Both trees are miss-named in common vernacular, and both trees are easily identified by a singular striking characteristic. Oh, one thing else both of these trees are highly desired, or the wood is, by turners as they are wonderful woods to turn with outstanding results.

The *Liriodendron* has a few common names, some that include the moniker 'poplar'. This is a high disservice to *Liriodendron* as poplar is a wood with little use except as the flooring for horse stalls. *Liriodendron tulipifera* is in the magnolia family with a rich greenish color, hard and solid. This tree does have a tulip like flower that is difficult to view high up in the canopy but quite exquisite with greenish yellow petals and a bright orange color at the base. Tulip trees grow to 200 feet tall, and are the tallest deciduous trees in the world.



The leaf of the tulip tree is the telltale sign for identification. A good solid green color and looks from a distance like a maple leaf. Closer inspection reveals a maple leaf with the top truncated, or cut off as if the tree forgot to grow a leaf tip. No other leaf comes close to this leaf appearance. Once examined you will always be able to recognize this tree. In the winter look at the leaves on the ground. It can be quite a large tree, related to magnolia, so if one unfortunately comes down, many bowls and other usages can be applied to a single tree.



Leaves are alternate, simple, 4-6 inches long and 4-8 inches wide. Composite seed fruits are cone like samaras, reddish brown. Bark is dark green, smooth, becoming grey-brown and furrowed with age. The wood is dark green brownish tinge. I have tried only a few spindle pieces which turned easily and finished clean with a good luster. Many references occur to *Liriodendron tulipifera* in the turning books.

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*Araucaria heterophylla* is a very commonly planted tree in North America. Although called Norfolk Island Pine, it is not a pine at all and should be viewed with its close relatives *Araucaria bidwillii* – bunya bunya, *A. columnaris* – Cook pine (not a pine), *A. araucana* – monkey puzzle tree. The Norfolk Araucaria is identified by its symmetrical form, branches in whorls of 4-9 branches, very star like and quite distinctive layering. Needles are tight, ¼” to ½” long, soft to the touch. A picture says a thousand words, and once shown this Araucaria is unmistakable. Grows to a 100 feet or more, usually straight as an arrow. The silhouette of the tree is a perfect triangle. Bark becomes whitish with horizontal lines of black specks. This is a handsome tree in a park setting.



For a 'soft wood' this tree is highly prized for turning especially utilizing the circular arrangement of branches. John Doyen describes how green wood can be placed in a plastic bag, allowed to fester for a couple of months until blue stain spalting appears. Finished bowls turned thin are almost emerald and translucent; some prized pieces have been shown locally. This is a very sought after wood for turning, not so much for milling. Huge trees are occasionally removed especially when planted in a small yard.



-Tony Wolcott

## Rockler Asks for Help in Breast Cancer Awareness



I hope that some of the club's pen turners can come into the Rockler Store in Pleasant Hill to make some pens with us. I plan to donate some pink pens to the Susan G Komen foundation for breast cancer awareness. If you are interested please let me know ASAP. I will need a copy of your clubs logo for the card that goes along with each pen, there will also be a place for the turner to sign.

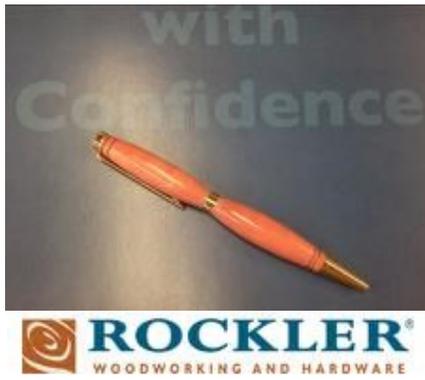
The date for the "all day" turning party will be August 23rd (Saturday). I will have five lathes set up with kits and prepared blanks to turn and finish at no cost.

Each turner, if they decide to purchase, will get 10% off (standard exclusion) and the chance to earn points for free gift cards for the club.

Please let me know today or tomorrow if you can support this event, that would be great.

The pens will be sent to the local Susan G Koman chapter in San Francisco and presented during their walk/run event in Sept.

Thank you  
Matt Graham  
925-521-1800  
Manager  
Rockler Woodworking



## Newsletter Articles

Got a great idea you want to share with your fellow Woodturners? Whether it is a turning tool, turning technique, finishing process or anything at all related to turning, your BAWA newsletter can always use an article. If you have pictures, all the better. If you need help writing it up or taking pictures, we're here to help. That's what our club is all about - sharing.

Contact either club president

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## Tip on Getting Smooth Inner Surfaces on Bowls

Due to the different densities of early wood (fast growing and less dense) and late wood (slower growing/more dense), achieving a nice, fair and smooth inner surface on bowls can sometimes be a challenge. While more pronounced in some wood species than others, the varying density between early and late wood makes it difficult for the cutting tool to cut evenly. The tool cuts easier (and just slightly deeper) into the soft grain and not as deeply into the harder grain and you end up with ripples or bumps.

To lessen this effect, keep your cutting tool extremely sharp and use a light touch as you make your cuts. Pushing hard with a dull tool will only cause the tool to penetrate deeper into the soft grain, yet you will still encounter resistance in the harder grain and will end up with a less than smooth surface.

Whether you are cutting from the center out to the rim or from the rim to the center, always start the cut as if it were your last cut. Each cut should be a finish cut. Each cut should be a non-pressure cut. If you finesse the tool (perform light cuts with minimum pressure), you will produce clean, smooth cuts and you will not have to sand as much.

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Provided thanks to Ard Sealy.

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*July Show and Tell*



Mike Vergino and a maple shallow bowl



Jim Rodgers with another decorated bowl



Don White hits another home run in creativity



Corwin Jones and a sphere



Joel Albert bracelet stands



Bob Nolan with a small olive bowl