

The Burl

A monthly newsletter for the
Willamette Valley Woodturners

e-mail: wwturners@gmail.com

We are also on Facebook



Member chapter

Volume 27, Issue 7

A non-profit/501(c)(3) corporation

July, 2023



Next Meeting: 6:30-8:30 PM, July 13, 2023
Salem 50+ Center

July President's Message:

Hello Willamette Valley Woodturners!

Yup, Summer arrived! The water bill is up and so is the cooling bill. Hey, no heat bill! Ah well, the fourth of July went well with just a lot of noise and no particularly big forest fires... Yet... Tomatoes are still green but Blueberries are going crazy.

I want to note a wonderful addition to the Willamette Valley Woodturners assets in the form of the sign that was presented to the club at the last meeting. THANK YOU VERY MUCH Elling Holm for creating this sign. It is the club logo in all its great color and of course, roundness.

This month the demonstrator is Eric Lofstrom. If you haven't seen him yet, I think you need to come out from under your rock. He is a great person as well as a fantastic turner and this month's adventure with Eric is probably going to include character building. Oh, I mean creating characters like a Viking Gnome. The skills involved include using a skew, sharpening, and a variety of embellishment techniques.

AND! As noted in an email about two weeks ago, there are still slots for THREE classes offered by Eric. These are scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. But Saturday is already full. Eric is a good teacher and there is always lots to learn. Reach out to **Larry Curry** for more info and to get signed up. Larry is at 503-701-6624 or email at lgcurry@aol.com

Our booth at the Benton County Fair is being organized by Brian Skaar. I am not sure at this moment how much he has filled up on spaces, but it sure sounded like space was going fast. We are trying out this new event and hope to see members attend to say hello if not actually there to demonstrate. He should have a signup sheet at the next meeting with times and dates. Reach out to Brian at 541-908-3909 or brian62skaar@yahoo.com

The State Fair is coming up at the end of August and the first week of September. As many of you know, this has been a signature event for the club over the years and is looked forward to by all the folks who demonstrate. And I invite all the members to give it a try! Meeting the public and explaining this wonderful hobby is great fun. **Kip Allen** has the signup sheets and would love to get you on board for volunteering as a demonstrator. He can be reached at 503-580-6743 or email at nwagent680@gmail.com

We will have a box at the meeting for anyone wanting to bring in their donations for Empty Bowls. For this year, I am seeking COLLABORATORS. Let me know if you want to join with the Willamette Art Center group to make things on your lathe to fit things they make from clay. Last year it got down to the wire and I jumped in to help make a bunch of lids for their thrown pots. It was fun, easy, and rather quick. A wood lid on a ceramic pot increased its value by a third, if not double. I would like to take a group to meet with them. Dates not set. Please reach out to me to get it going. We will also have a demonstration area again this year. Let me know if you want to be on that list. Reach out to me at 503-544-0647 or prezwvw@gmail.com

And just to plant the seeds again. All three of the WVW officer positions are terming out this year. The club needs you to be ON the Board. Positions include President, Vice President and Secretary.

Also, I am still hoping for someone to come forward as a Show And Tell Director. **Elling Holm** has suggested he will be available for our next meeting, but I didn't think he committed to the idea on a long-term

basis. Maybe if we let him know he has done a great job and we really want him to take the reins he'll do it. Hey, this can be way more than it is. It just needs someone like Elling to take it there!

Stay Sharp for Happy Turning!
 Marc

Upcoming Presenters and Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Presenter/Event</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Follow-Up/notes</u>
7/13/23	Eric Lofstrom	Viking Gnome	Eric will be doing three one-day classes (Fri, Sat, Sun) after his Thursday night demo (see description below)
7/14/23	Eric Lofstrom class	See Below	Classes will be held at the shop of Terry Gerros
7/15/23	Eric Lofstrom class	See Below	Classes will be held at the shop of Terry Gerros
7/16/23	Eric Lofstrom class	See Below	Classes will be held at the shop of Terry Gerros
7/16/23	Sawdust Session	As needed	9 AM-Noonish, Darcy Tataryn's Studio (This session will take place the same day as Eric's final class)
8/10/23	Kevin Jesequel	Hollow forms with natural openings	
8/13/23	Sawdust Session	As needed	9 AM-Noonish, Darcy Tataryn's Studio Wear your nametag and come learn or teach or practice or visit!

July Presenter: Eric Lofstrom

From Eric's website at <https://www.ericlofstrom.com/>



Working with wood has been a source of peaceful intrigue since my childhood. When creating, I try to practice “presence,” or mindfulness, so I can stay safe and make the most of my time creatively. I strive to balance the seemingly opposite goals of absolute physical control and creative surrender. On my best days, I can zoom in on the finest material details, while also acknowledging how various elements might play to a piece’s artistic message. Approaching studio time in this way may not be the most productive in terms of volume, but it allows me to explore and fully

understand things in a more satisfying way.

As an artist, I aim to create clean-lined forms with minimal distraction. I use grain, color, and texture to invite an intimate conversation with my work. I enjoy working within self-prescribed constraints, focusing my exploration to develop philosophical concepts into series. Currently, my work represents curiosities relating to water, energy, and the human spirit.



***July Classes to be offered by Eric Lofstrom.**

****VP Larry will have sign-ups, costs, times, and location info at the July meeting.**

Friday (7/14) Class Topic: Namaste Bowls (Endgrain Bowls)

Turning an Artistic End Grain Bowl: “Namaste” Series In this session, you will learn many of the techniques I use to create artistic, yet functional bowls using small end grain pieces of wood. Emphasis will be on tools control, techniques specific to turning end grain and discussion of form. We will also explore multiple elegant coloring & texturing embellishments I use to add depth & drama to a captivatingly simple form. After this session, you’ll see any small block of plain-grained wood as a potential piece of art!

Saturday (7/15) Class Topic: Skew Skills

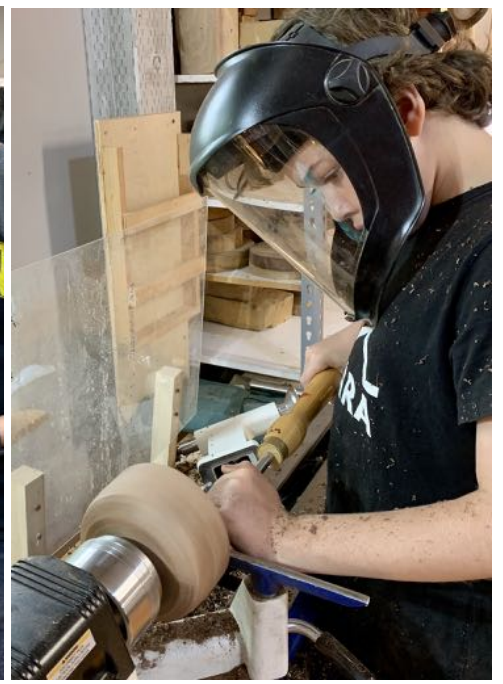
Skew Skills: “Making the Cuts!” In this session, you learn basic spindle turning with the skew, simple sharpening techniques used to create a razor’s edge & methods to obtain an ultra-clean cut. You will experience several exercises using biomechanics to increase tool control & gain confidence at the lathe. This session will also showcase skill-building projects; the egg & my version of the finger-tip spinning top. The experience of using the skew & the lessons learned during this demo will expand your success with ALL cutting tools!

Sunday (7/16) Class Topic: Creating Characters- Make a Viking Gnome

Turning a Viking Gnome: Creating Characters Using basic spindle turning tools, this session focuses on spindle grain turning to create a small, character-filled viking. In addition to reviewing basic tool applications, attendees will learn techniques used to join multiple complementary forms to compose a unique figurine. This session will showcase what basic tools and simple embellishment techniques will allow you to do with a handful of spindle grain wood blanks. Once you learn to turn a viking, you’ll be able to apply the basics to create a unique character of your own!

June Sawdust Session: Well, about 18 folks spent a few hours on again, quite a variety of projects from pens to bowls. We had a couple first time turners and others just honing their skills. The strangest? Roger’s bone dry root wad. What a challenge he took on!







June meeting notes:

President **Marc Vickery** gavelled the meeting to order at 6:30 with an attendance of 46 people and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marc announced and thanked Kip Allen for stepping up to coordinate our booth at the State Fair.

Elling took the group through the pieces on display for Show-n-Tell including the sign mentioned by Marc in his note above! Well done.



Gary Dahrens revisited the idea of a monthly “challenge” project. The

idea is to get folks to maybe try something new or just add to a collection of like items to show some of the variations possible. It is not meant to be a competition. Gary shared a list of possible topics including vases, tops, spheres, goblets, ornaments, something with 3 kinds of wood, something other than wood, enhanced pieces including piercing, coloring, texturing, and burning, and finally, a round tuit. The group was amiable to the suggestion and the project agreed to for July was a **spinning top**. Look forward to seeing what comes in! An announcement was made that **Amity HS** was holding a woodworking showcase and sale on June 9.

(I would like to see any pics or hear an account of the event from anyone that attended.)

VP Larry shared the latest on our upcoming visit and classes from Eric Lofstrom including costs, locations, topics, and openings. (see note from Marc above)

Presenter: Nick Stagg

Nick shared a bit of his turning history leading to his expertise in sharpening. He started turning in 2002 and in 2005 hosted a 2-day Stuart Batty class at his place. During this time, he got extra individual lessons on sharpening from Stuart which became the basis for most of his technique and demonstrations.

Some points I took from the demo:





-The negative rake scraper is not a scraper but a finishing cutting tool that allows for much less sanding required.

*The 40-40 grind is not his go to for finishing cuts (not sure if I heard that right...)

-Advice: plan for 2 final cuts; only make one

-Nick said he's found that a sharp tool only stays sharp for 2 minutes of actual clean cutting before needing to be touched up.

-Grind the heel of the gouge for better inside cuts.

-The steps to grinding a gouge is wing, wing, sweep the middle, meaning focus on both wings before a final wing to wing pass.

-Nick's bottom gouge technique was the same but with a flatter 50° platform angle.

-His spindle gouge also uses the 40-40 grind but without as much wrist (rotation).

-The roughing gouge has no swing and is just rotation to keep a flat profile.

*To do this, Nick puts both thumbs on the edges of the roughing gouge and just rolls from thumb to thumb.

-Don't over rotate the gouge; this makes the wing edge very difficult or impossible to access.



-Be very careful not to create a "bird's beak" wing which is difficult, impossible, or even dangerous to use.

-When reshaping a tool upside down on the grinder, make sure to rock forward and back to avoid the concave wing.

-Nick uses a 320 grit wheel for his fine grind.

*He uses a leather strop to remove the burr on his skew.

-Nick sets his platform at 20° for his skew using the multi-gauge from Stuart Batty. He acknowledged that this results in a slightly concave bevel which has little to no impact to his cutting in his experience.

*He did say removing this with a few passes on a diamond sharpening stone would work.

-He prefers the angle gauge over the other angle tools as there are fewer variables including shrinking wheels, settings from other users, and vibration issues.

**Nick then demonstrated some cutting and gave us some other pointers.

-He does not recommend the use of collars in assisting us in tool rest height. Each tool requires a slightly different height which is also affected by the tool overhang on the rest.

-He reviewed body position and the role of the hands (left hand just positions and weights the tool to deal with vibration; all steering comes from the right hand).

-Finally, Nick's favorite sandpaper grit is silicone carbide.

Thank you Nick! I've got many years of refining before coming close to what you achieve with your edges. Torn grain will be my life until then...

A great raffle once again! Thank you donors and ticket buyers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.



Gallery : We had an interesting mix of wonderful pieces come in this month. (Though I'm not sure I got pics of them all. If I missed yours, my apologies.) Pictured is Elling's WVW sign as well as some immense painting tools and a couple beautiful epoxy pieces. Elling also went after the wet turned ogee bowls in the style presented last month by Mauricio. They warped wonderfully! There was a bit of a mushroom theme as well. Well done all!





Thank you Jack Knight!

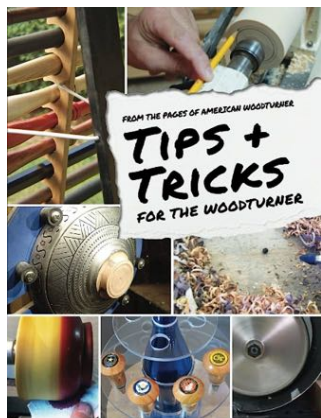
Darcy and Roger picked up some more wood from Jack who would like to get it into the hands of club members. Roger has organized it and says it is well seasoned, ready to turn. He will have it available this Thursday. One more reason to attend!

Thank you Darcy!

Roger asked me to pass on his sincere appreciation to Darcy for covering the library during his recent absence.

For Sale

Heavy duty utility trailer for sale. Holds a cord of firewood level full. Call Wal Thies 541-760-9309 for details.



Library comment:

I checked out the book "Tips and Tricks for the Woodturner" last month and highly recommend it. It is about 90 pages of mostly quick hacks, sometimes 3 or 4 per page, directly from AAW's magazines. They are concise and easy to read and I found myself over and over thinking, "Well, that's brilliant." Aage Rendalen on page 63 even credits Dick Powell as the basis for his bottom thickness jig. The only bummer is there are so many tips that there's no way I'll remember them. May have to buy my own copy of this one...

On a personal note: Mr. Dick Powell has been a vital volunteer in the school I teach at for many years and we can't thank him enough. Luckily, working with the kids is pretty hilarious (most of the time). These are just a few of the kids he helped this semester. One of the students is in the middle of a bowl-from-a-board project that will be finished at the Benton Co Fair. Also shown is a couple of guys that came in after school to finish their pieces. Thanks so much Mr. Powell!



And finally: In the category “What in the world?!...” we have this crazy burl member **Trevor Thayer** sent me (well, the picture; not the actual burl...). Trevor said he had just cleaned it up which raises so many questions, the main one being “How?” It looks like it needs a pithy caption. Ha! Thanks Trevor!



Membership Rewards

Chain Sharpening Service from Jeff Zens:

I have an electric chain sharpener and can accurately sharpen your chains and adjust depth stops for your saw chains. This service will restore the chain to “factory-new” condition. Most chains for 18" and shorter bars can be sharpened for \$10.00. Longer chains (up to 30" bars) are \$20.00 Badly damaged chains might be a little bit more. I will also tell you if the chain has reached the end of its useful life, and will not sharpen a chain beyond that point. This price is only available for club members.

Supplies-See Jerry Lelack at club meetings

The club purchases a few supplies in bulk and sells them to members at club cost.

- *CA superglue (\$7), black or brown superglue (\$10) accelerator (\$10).
- *Half round protractors (\$6) used to measure the angle ground on a tool
- *Depth gauges (\$5)
- *HSS ¼" x 8" Round Tool Bits rods

*Anchorseal (\$9/gal) and walnut oil (\$20/gal) are available through **Jeff Zens**. You will need to bring your own gallon containers; contact [Jeff](#) to make arrangements.

Wood Gathering

Anyone who learns of a tree or log that is available to the club should notify **Randy Nichols**.

From Terry Gerros

I am a distributor for Stick Fast CA glue, Sharpfast Sharpening systems, the Holdfast vacuum chucking system and Saburrtooth Carving bits. If you have an interest in these products, give me a call or send me an [email](#) for details.

Club Member Discounts

- **Club Member Discounts at Craft Supply:** The club's order is processed the Monday following our Club meeting if it equals or exceeds \$1,000. Craft Supplies offers us a 10% discount **plus** free shipping on almost all items (lathes and other heavy items are excluded) and occasional additional discounts on certain other items and quantity purchases. If you order from Craft Supplies current sale items, you will receive the club discount in addition to the sale discount, making many items available at very attractive prices. For detailed instruction for ordering see the article in the **January 2022 Burl**, available on the club's website. Questions? See [Jeff Zens](#).
- Club members are registered with **Klingspor's Woodworking Shop** at www.woodworkingshop.com or 800-228-0000. They have your name and will give you a 10% discount.
- If you show your club card at checkout time to the cashier at **Woodcraft** in Tigard they will give you a 10% discount (May not apply to some machinery).
- **Exotic Wood** is offering a discount of 15% off any orders placed at: www.exoticwoodsusa.com. (This includes sale items and free shipping on orders over \$300). Use promo code ewusaAAW
- **Gilmer Wood** now offers our club a 10% discount on purchases made there. If you haven't been to Gilmer's, it is well worth the trip to Portland, if only to make your mouth water and make you cry if you leave empty handed.

Club happenings in our area

(Please visit the club's website listed below for additional information)

Northwest Woodturners (Beaverton, OR)

www.northwestwoodturners.com

Cascade Woodturners (Portland, OR)

www.cascadewoodturners.com

Beaver State Woodturners (Eugene, OR)

www.beaverstatewoodturners.com

Oregon Coast Woodturners (Newport, OR)

www.oregoncoastwoodturners.com

Southwest Washington Woodturners (Vancouver, WA)

www.southwestwashingtonwoodturners.com

South Coast Woodturners (Coos Bay, OR)

www.southcoastwoodturners.com

The Burl is a monthly newsletter publication of the **Willamette Valley Woodturners**.

<u>Executive Board</u>		<u>Non-Executive Positions</u>	
President	Marc Vickery	Newsletter Editor	Brian Skaar
Vice President	Larry Curry	Webmaster	Jeff Zens
Secretary	Brian Skaar	Wood Gathering	Randy Nichols
Treasurer	Dick Powell	Librarian	Roger Dirkx
Past President	Jeff Zens	Glue/Supply Sales	Jerry Lelack
Board Position 1	Bruce Stangeby	Steam-Up Coordinator	Jim Devorss
Board Position 2	Randy Nichols	Mentor Coordinator	Paul Hirt
		State Fair Coordinator	Kip Allen
		Empty Bowls Coordinator	Darcy Tataryn
		Roster Editor	Darcy Tataryn
		Facilities Coordinator	OPEN
		Video Coordinator	Marc Vickery
		CraftSupplies Order	Jeff Zens
		Beads of Courage	Mark Choitz
		Membership Director	Darcy Tataryn

Send dues & other financial matters to:

Dick Powell
 8110 NW Oak Creek Dr
 Corvallis, OR 97330
rlpowellsaf@gmail.com

Checks payable to: Willamette Valley Woodturners

Send changes to roster information (address, e-mail, phone#) to Dick Powell (rlpowellsaf@gmail.com)

Send all other club correspondence to the clubs official address:

P.O. Box 151
 581 Lancaster Dr SE
 Salem, OR 97317 PrezWVW@gmail.com
 Club e-mail: wwturners@gmail.com