



# The Burl

A monthly newsletter for the  
**Willamette Valley Woodturners**  
e-mail: [wvwtturners@gmail.com](mailto:wvwtturners@gmail.com)  
We are also on Facebook



Member chapter

Volume 25, Issue 5

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

May, 2021

**Next Meeting**  
**Thursday May 13, 2020 6:30 PM**  
**using ZOOM**

## President's Message May, 2021

### Help Wanted

As we approach the midpoint of 2021, I've been looking ahead and thinking about what steps the club needs to take in the next six months. As always, a lot of the focus is on obtaining assistance from the membership to fill positions and do the work of the club. Here are some of our needs for the remainder of 2021 and into 2022.

**Outreach coordinators:** We could use some additional help coordinating our booths at State Fair and at Steam-Up this year and into the future. These jobs mostly involve getting the club's booth space arranged, taking care of paperwork, getting members signed up to staff the booths, and arranging help for set-up and tear-down.

**Outreach Demonstrators:** Demonstrating at these events is a lot of fun, and it's really not too early to think about individual participation beyond coordinating the event for the club. Even a beginning turner has a lot to offer as a demonstrator. These events serve as the primary membership development too for the WVV, and demonstrators are our ambassadors and recruiters. If you enjoy talking to people and telling them what we do, this is a great opportunity.

**Board Members:** The Board is developing a possible slate of officers to take us into 2022. Several members have agreed to step into vacancies, but we invite any and all interested members to contact one of the Board members and let us know how you're willing to help out.

**Newsletter Editor:** Our esteemed Treasurer Henrik Aberg is tired of chasing down monthly content from authors, notably the club President. He fills a lot of other roles for the Club and for the Oregon Woodturning Symposium and has decided it's time for a break from this task. If you're interested in editing the newsletter and getting it to the webmaster for distribution please contact either Henrik or me.

**Librarian:** Once we get back to regular monthly meetings, our library is again going to be available for member checkout, and there will be a lot of books to get checked back in. If you can help out with the library, please get in touch with Paul Hirt, our current librarian.

**Facilities Assistance:** Still in the planning stage for a return to normal demonstrations, we need one or two people to take the lead with setup and teardown of the club lathe before and after our in-person meetings. The time commitment is minimal for these tasks.

**Video Assistance:** Finally, we are going to need assistance running the video setup during demonstrations. Our current lead on this task is Marc Vickery who will likely step into the President's job at the end of the year. Having done both of these jobs over my years with the club, I can tell you that it's not feasible to have the President also be the lead videographer. There is simply too much going on at the meeting to do both jobs. I know how we all depend on the camera to get us the detailed shots we depend on during the demonstrations. We need someone to make that happen.

Thanks to everyone who helps out already, and in anticipation of the offers of assistance we'll get to fill some of these posts. The club is only as good as its membership – and over the years, this group as always been willing to work together to do what needs doing.

So roll up your sleeves. Find a way to help out - and Let the Chips Fly!

~~ Jeff Zens

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**April 8, 2021**

**Willamette Valley Woodturners Club Meeting - Zoom**

**Submitted by Milt Engelke**

Call to Order at 6:30 PM by President Jeff Zens leading with the Pledge of Allegiance.

32 In attendance, three visitors were included in the count.

Business issues discussed prior to Demonstration:

Pandemic has resulted in a difficult year for membership: 112 members total, 25 Life members

Added six new members – 2021

Lost six members – 2021

Discussions on future sawdust sessions:

LOCATIONS:

Terry Gerros 820 Cordon RD NE, Salem, OR 97317

Darcy Tataryn 10677 Garma Way S.E., Turner, OR 97392

POPULAR TOPICS

Log to Lathe

Safety Processing tips for preparing turning blanks from logs

Sealing and preservation tips

DEMONTRATION BY Emiliano Achaval Maui, HI SUBJECT: Calabash Turning.

<https://www.hawaiiankoaturner.com>

We have had many excellent presentations over the past few months and this one fits in as top notch.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

## **My Adventures at Woodturning**

### **Submitted by Mark Bollenbeck**

I was introduced to woodturning in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, where I turned a shallow bowl. And I still have it today. Fast forwarding 40+ years; I met a woodturner at the Edmonds, WA farmers market about 8 years ago and he inspired me to buy a lathe. Within a couple of years, I bought a 5 speed Delta midi lathe, a set of Sorby turning tools, and Richard Raffan's book "Turning Wood", which was recommended by a Rockler employee.



After reading parts of Richard's book to get started, I still had questions. What is the proper lathe speed? What does 'rub the bevel' mean? How high to set the tool rest? How to sharpen turning tools properly? When to re-sharpen the tools? I purchased a Tormek-like system from Grizzly for sharpening my tools.

I tried to locate a wood turning club near me, but according to AAW there wasn't a club anywhere near me (within 1+ hour). Then I bought Richard Raffan's video and tried to imitate his methods. I thought how hard can it be? I also checked out You Tube. Yikes! There are a lot of videos online! Learning was slow at first as I had a full time job and a long commute. I could only turn every couple of weeks.

My first few projects were spindle turning: a bottle opener, a spinning top, and a Christmas ornament from Wood Magazine (Nov 2010). The first two I used the roughing and spindle gouges. It went OK, but I was thankful for sandpaper! Then I tried the Christmas ornament with a skew chisel as the article recommended. Here it goes... I got a catch... Then another one. And another one. After couple of ornaments, I was ready to toss the skew in the garbage (or throw it across the garage). Instead, I went back to the roughing and spindle gouges, sandpaper, re-reading Richard's book, and videos online. I eventually learned how to use the skew through trial and error (and lots of catches).

I moved on to bowls and boxes. For my wife I made a small box. I tried to use a 3/4 inch square end scraper to howl out the inside. However, it wasn't cutting so I pushed a little harder. It was now burning and creating dust. I sharpened it and tried again. Still the same result. Hmm... Back to the books and videos. Finally, I raised the tool rest and (Wa-lah!) that worked! Not knowing how fast to turn, I started at about 950 - 1550 rpms for small projects. I didn't reduce the speed of the lathe before sanding, so some projects (e.g., bowls) developed cracks due to the heat generated by sanding. Of course, I sanded too hard and too long. Another learning experience.

Based on Mike Mahoney's Fine Woodworking article (Jan/Feb 2017 a lidded canister), I made an urn for our Beagle that died of cancer. It was quite the learning experience with my bowl gouge. After finishing the outside, I move to the inside. It was going well, until I had a bad catch that exploded the top part of the canister. Good thing I heeded woodturning safety warning and was wearing my face shield. Otherwise, I would have been hit in the face.

I also took a class from the Woodcraft in Seattle. The instructor spend the vast majority of his time with the only other class member who never turned. I didn't learn much at all. I also took a sharpening class (from a different instructor) and that was a little better. I then purchased the Oneway Wolverine system, 8 inch grinder, and CBN wheels. I now use my Grizzly slow speed grinder for sharpening kitchen knives.

## Upcoming Demonstrators for 2021

NOTE: due to the Coronavirus, the next several months are to be provided through Zoom. As of June, Eric Lofstrom is still set for a zoom meeting BUT may be our first real live demonstrator if the rules change and we have a place to meet. Scheduled meetings are all subject to change.

Date	Name	Website	Topic	Saturday Class
5/13/2021	Mike Mahoney	<a href="https://bowlmakerinc.com">https://bowlmakerinc.com</a>	Bowl Turning with a short piece on Coring	
6/10/2021	Eric Lofstrom	<a href="https://www.ericlofstrom.com">https://www.ericlofstrom.com</a>	Many Demo topics to chose – <b>PLEASE come to the meeting to state a choice of topics you would like to see</b>	Not yet. BUT IF COVID RULES ALLOW IT, IT IS POSSIBLE!!!!
7/8/2021	Glenn Lucas	<a href="https://www.glennlucaswoodturning.com">https://www.glennlucaswoodturning.com</a>	Lidded box with the lean toward Beads of Courage	no
FOR remaining 2021: Please express an interest of ANY Demonstrator or weekend workshop you would like to see to Marc Vickery				

PLEASE NOTE:

May 2021 meeting:

**To bring the photos for Show and Tell to the meeting, PLEASE forward by email to me at my address below.**

Sawdust sessions:

I have decided to not schedule further sawdust sessions unless someone specifically requests a session. The turnout over the Covid period has been a struggle and it seems a challenge to continue the idea of generating interest where there seems to be none.

I wish it were not so.

As to scheduling for 2021, member input is requested. Bear in mind we may not be able to continue to provide as many demonstrators on a paid basis as there is very little income coming in to support demonstrators and other expenses.

If members have ideas about fundraising please feel free to bring it to the table!

In the world of technology, I discovered some members found Zoom a bit of a hurdle. IF YOU want a practice session, please email me a note asking to be invited.

And if you have a best time include it in the email me and we can discuss a time that works for you.

Please feel free to reach out to Marc Vickery if you have questions, observations, ideas, or any other concepts.

Thanks,  
Marc

503-544-0647

Email to [halepaumarc@gmail.com](mailto:halepaumarc@gmail.com)

Call if I can help in any other way.



**Mike Mahoney** has been a professional woodturner since 1994. His bowls are featured in galleries across the United States. Mike's work is sought after by collectors all over the world. Mike is often requested to demonstrate and teach for woodturning clubs, craft schools, and symposia. He has traveled around the world to discuss and demonstrate his craft and is considered an authority in woodturning.

*As you can imagine, Mike produces a lot of bowls and other turnings but he also produces enormous piles of wood shavings.*

***Artist Statement:***

"I am passionate about my craft and the American Craft movement. I am dedicated to producing quality craft and educating the public about woodturning. My wood comes from urban sources (tree trimmers and local cities). I produce all my work on the lathe without any embellishments after the fact, creating a very traditional feel with contemporary ideas. I want my work to be attractive as well as useful. For my work to be admired is one thing, but for my work to be used fulfills my purpose as a craftsman."

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# 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

The club purchases a few supplies in bulk and sells them to members at club cost. We routinely have superglue (\$5), black or brown superglue (\$10) accelerator (\$10). Additionally, the club has a small supply of half round protractors (\$6) used to measure the angle ground on a tool, and depth gauges (\$5). HSS Round Tool Bits rods (1/4" x 8") are also available (\$3). These are available at club meetings: see Jerry Lelack at the meeting to purchase. 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 Gary Dahrens, (503) 260-9778.

## 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 Supply 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 Supply's 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 November 2015 Burl, available on the club's website. Questions? See [Jeff Zens](#).
- Club members are registered with **Klingspor's Woodworking Shop** at [www.woodworkingshop.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.northwestwoodturners.com)

**Cascade Woodturners** (Portland, OR)

[www.cascadewoodturners.com](http://www.cascadewoodturners.com)

**Beaver State Woodturners** (Eugene, OR)

[www.beaverstatewoodturners.com](http://www.beaverstatewoodturners.com)

**Oregon Coast Woodturners** (Newport, OR)

[www.oregoncoastwoodturners.com](http://www.oregoncoastwoodturners.com)

**Southwest Washington Woodturners** (Vancouver, WA)

[www.southwestwashingtonwoodturners.com](http://www.southwestwashingtonwoodturners.com)

**South Coast Woodturners** (Coos Bay, OR)

[www.southcoastwoodturners.com](http://www.southcoastwoodturners.com)

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

### Executive Board

President	Jeff Zens
Vice President	Marc Vickery
Secretary	Milt Engelke
Treasurer	Henrik Åberg
Past President	Darcy Tataryn
Board Position 1	Scott Morrison
Board Position 2	Jerry Lelack

### Non-Executive Positions

Newsletter Editor	Henrik Åberg
Web Master	Silver Sørensen
Wood Gathering	Gary Dahrens

Librarians	Terry Gerros/Paul Hirt
Glue Sales	Jerry Lelack
Coordinators	Myron Yancey (Steam-Up) Paul Hirt (Mentors) Bob Hutchinson(State Fair)
Roster Editor	Henrik Åberg
Facilities	Open
Video	Jeff Zens Larry Curry Marc Vickery
Craft Supplies Orders	Jeff Zens

Send dues & other financial matters to:

Henrik Åberg  
7231 Bethel Road SE  
Salem, OR 97317  
[henrikeaberg@gmail.com](mailto:henrikeaberg@gmail.com)

Checks payable to: Willamette Valley Woodturners

Send changes to roster information (address, e-mail, phone#) to Henrik Åberg ([henrikeaberg@gmail.com](mailto:henrikeaberg@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](mailto:PrezWVW@gmail.com)  
Club e-mail: [wwturners@gmail.com](mailto:wwturners@gmail.com)