

# The Burl

A monthly newsletter for the  
**Willamette Valley Woodturners**

e-mail: [wwwturners@gmail.com](mailto:wwwturners@gmail.com)

We are also on Facebook



Member chapter

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**Next Meeting: 6:30-8:30 PM, Feb 10, 2022  
Salem 50+ Center**

## President's Message February, 2022

### Let the chips fly!

Now that we are through the holidays, the path to my shop has been well traveled. Seems like there is no diversion to the yard work (Yay!), social gatherings, (well OK), or important professional engagements (love being retired) to be concerned with. So all the time in the world can be devoted to turning. I think I have completed at least 15 woodturning projects in the last month. None can be described as amazing, fantastic, beautiful or extraordinary. Many are simply being completed as they have reached a proper moisture content and I need the shelf space.

And as many turners know, for the wood that was provided from people giving it away, they are due to receive a wood turned item. It's an unwritten rule. A convention I learned over a dozen years ago from old school woodturners. To that end, I have completed four giveaway items. I relish the delivery of these items, as it has been over a year since the wood was harvested, and many of the recipients either did not really expect the return of the wood in the turned form or they simply forgot about it. The surprise is a fun part and the reveal of the item is generally greeted with the reaffirming OOOHs and AHHHs that the recipient goes through. YUP, that can be the fun part! Anyway, it feels good to live up to promises made.

As to the club business, I look forward to the evolution and resolutions to problems that get presented. At the first quarterly Board meeting, **Jeff Zens** provided a fairly wide discussion on the website issues. It seems he has grabbed the bull by the horns and is wrangling the beast to the ground. THANKS AGAIN Jeff! There is a lot of stuff that needs updating and revision. It seems like we have lots of potential. Some easy ideas to address once it gets some behind the scenes fixes done, are the gallery. If you peek at other clubs' websites, they often have a robust gallery of stuff turned by the members. I miss that. I have a lot of photos provided to me to get onto Zoom when we had to do that, I'll be interested in getting that out there. Also, photos of sawdust sessions, State Fair, Woodturning classes etc. These things have been going on, but there is not a drop of photographic display on the website. YUP. That is the plan, get it in plain sight (site...).

Another area of interest is our non-board positions.

These include replacements for the Librarians **Paul Hirt** and **Terry Gerros**. THANK YOU for managing this position for all these years! THANKS to **Roger Dirkx**, he will be learning the ropes and he will be available to set you up with any of our 3000 titles of books, CDs and so on. We really have a great Library.

We also have a new coordinator for our Wood Gathering program. **Randy Nichols** has stepped up and is now the person to reach out to if there is turning wood available and the club needs to go after it. Randy has got to be one of the best fits for the position. He runs sawmills and has heavy equipment sometimes necessary to move the bigger wood. THANKS RANDY!

And **Bruce Stangeby** has stepped up to be our State Fair Program Coordinator. That can be a challenge to herd all the woodturning demonstrator cats, have a meaningful dialogue with the State Fair folks and set the space up for the woodturners. THANKS BRUCE!

An outstanding position is someone to coordinate the Steam-Up event. As rumor has it, they have not been receptive to our requests and our previous coordinator Myron Yancy has decided he no longer has an interest in the event. Still Myron put in a lot of good years putting that event together, **THANKS MYRON!** So, if anyone has an interest in working with the Steam-Up folks, let me know. It's an event that is fun to attend, it's all about being a demonstrator, and generating interest in the club and woodturning.

Finally, we discussed a bit about doing an auction. While it is a way for the club to generate funds, it can also be a way to acquire some things. Historically, the idea was to sell your wood turned items. But the irony is that most woodturners are not in the market for something they can make themselves.... A better item to bring to the auction might be something you feel is a donation to the cause that has real value to your fellow members. For instance, I will donate a perfectly functional planer. (12-inch Delta) Other items might be raw wood, either ready for roughout, dry and roughed out or even something exotic but not in your wheelhouse. Anyone have leftovers of a large supply of stock on an item you no longer work with? (Thinking hardware like bottle stoppers, pen blanks, etc.) These might be perfectly good stock, just not something you are into now. **TOOLS!** Got any good tools you are not using anymore? Please let Larry Curry know if you have an interest in the auction idea. It would replace the regular meeting sometime this year. Or on a regular basis each year. As should be always understood but generally left unstated, please feel free to bring topics of discussion to me that you think will enhance the Club, provide members with a sense of greater involvement or generally sound like a good idea. I'm interested!

Happy Turning everyone and be safe!

Marc Vickery  
503-544-0647

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#### January 13, 2022 Club Meeting Summary

**President Marc Vickery** gavelled meeting to order at 6:30 after choosing from 4 excellent donated gavels. Present were approximately 40 members including 4 new members (welcome **Shawn, Monty, Libby, and Jen**) and 1 guest (welcome Nancy). Marc again thanked Jeff for his service as president and introduced him as webmaster.

**Webmaster Jeff Zens** updated the group on website progress and said he was working through past unanswered emails and that a better site is coming!

Jeff also clarified a piece of the CraftsSupplies order involving the tool discount, that being that the tools don't have to be the same for the discount to apply. If someone orders a roughing gouge and someone else orders a spindle gouge, both get bumped up to the 20% discount.

A question was asked if this included CBN wheels and Jeff said it did (which was followed by a healthy hullabaloo about grit...). Folks with grinding questions were invited to the Sawdust Session where they could experience the different grits on grinders.

**Marc** announced non-elected position needs (see president's message above).

**VP Larry Curry** announced upcoming demonstrators (see main page of website) including February's Dale Larson, March's Nick Stagg, and April's Dan Tilden.



## January Demonstrator Darcy Tataryn: Top Game



The game is basically a bowl with a separate channel on the outside. BBs are placed in the bowl and tops are spun which “kick” the bbs through holes in the side of the bowl and into scoring holes. Darcy told how he saw the game randomly and decided to make one. He saw some like his with two rings and some that were basically a bowl with holes for the bbs to fall in to. (Jonah’s mom found the game on-line named “Tyrollian Roulette”) He said kids love to play with them and find all kinds of variations to the play.

Some points of Darcy’s demo:

- His demo blank was a 14” piece of box elder
- There are no hard and fast dimensions
- The outside ring should be wide enough to be easily reached in to
- Values can be written or coins can be glued in for scoring
- Playing surface should be

slightly dished so bbs and tops go to the center

- Off balanced tops work fine, actually better, as they move around more
- Inner playing surface should be higher than outer ring so bbs will fall into holes
- Inner wall should be cupped a bit to send skittering bbs back toward

center

- Darcy demoed a cupped carbide cutter ideal for the inner wall shaping
- Some game play Darcy shared included most points, battle-bots (2+ tops with last one spinning the winner), 2 tops with 2 colors of bbs



- Darcy recommended you sand to finish before drilling holes
- Besides being wide enough for fingers, the outside ring should be wide enough for a forstner bit which Darcy suggested for the value holes
- The tops themselves need to have a shape on the bottom that will “kick” the bbs. His included laser cut hexagons with a 1/4” hole which were glued on. Shapes could also be carved in other ways.

• The hole layout doesn’t have to be super precise as the bbs scatter randomly

- The hole from the inner playing area through the wall to the scoring holes was just hand drilled using a spade, brad, or standard bit

- Darcy demonstrated the use of Artisan

Dye to decorate his game. It’s an alcohol based dye and comes in vibrant colors, dries quickly, and soaks in fast.

- If combining colors, he suggests using dark then light, sanding between coats
- He uses spray lacquer or shine juice (equal parts boiled linseed oil, denatured alcohol, and shellac) to seal the whole project
- Darcy offered a large birch round for someone to turn a game at the Sawdust Session

Thank you Darcy for the entertaining demo of an entertaining game!





**Larry** invited folks to say a few words about their **Gallery** items. Included were Roger's platter with copper inlay, Paul's dog poop bag dispenser, Walt's gnomes, Dick's oak bowl, Marc's birch platter, Dick's 8th grade student's segmented bowl and black walnut bowl, Jim's 3 corner box with finial, and Josh's metal and wood turned sculpture. Thanks for sharing!! (See pics below)







Some bonus project work by Roger!



### **January Sawdust Session**

Don't know if it was due to Darcy's promise of the turning blank, the chance to try the different grits on the grinders, or new year resolutions, but we had a full house on Sunday with around 20 total people! It was a very successful session with people getting lots of chances to ask questions and improve their skills on the lathes. Well done all!

Darcy will again host the February session on Sunday, February 13, from 9AM until around noon (no schedule is set; show when you want and leave when you wish). Call or text Darcy (530-551-7197) or check the roster for his address. Hope to see you there!

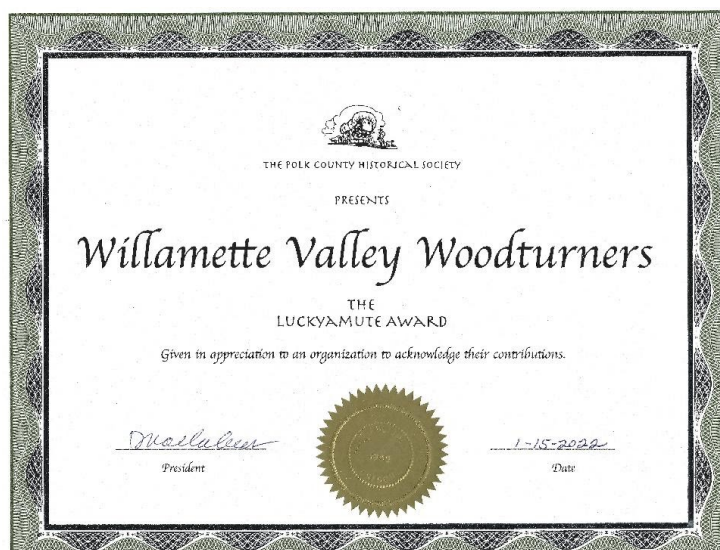




*The following is a reprint of an August 2020 Burl article, submitted by Paul Hirt  
Additional pictures and an **official recognition of the work done has been received** and warrant a reprint.*

### **A Boatload of Balusters or Happy 160th Birthday to the Historic Brunk House Farm**

So, let's say that you have a really old historic farm house and it needs some serious refurbishment. Case in point, the Historic Brunk House Farm, 159 years old this year; it sits at the corner of Route 51 and Route 22





in West Salem. The old deck is falling apart, the upstairs balcony is a disaster and some of those parts, like the balusters, are just not available at the local Home Depot. What will you do?

One solution is to solicit help from your local craft organization, in this case the Willamette Valley Woodturners. Those guys are always doing stuff for the local community, and they work really cheap, free even.



What's a baluster, you ask? One of a group of decorative spindles that hold up a railing. Making one or two to match the ones that are already in place is not too big of a deal. When you need 60 or so of those guys, all alike and nicely crafted, **Jim Devorss, Terry Gerros and Paul Hirt** are your guys.

Thanks, fellows for making us all look good.

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Additional notes from Paul:

The wood was purchased by one of our members from the local Lowes (off the shelf 4" x4" s).

64 Balusters were turned. We painted them with Brunk House paint and delivered them at the end of July 2020.

Covid protocols were followed. A good time was had by all. (Before and after pics below)



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A little humor shared with permission: **By Brad Withrow-Robinson, OSU Forestry & Natural Resources Extension – Benton, Linn & Polk Counties**

This blog often carries information about insect or disease problems emerging in local forests and woodlands. Today I will address a sensitive but common problem in the local woodland owner community, starting with the question: Do you or someone you know have an irrational attachment to wood? Behaviors such as holding back low value logs to saw into boards hoarded for undefined future projects may indicate an important condition you need to be aware of: wood sickness.

Common signs of the wood sickness are large accumulations of round or milled wood in a person's

yard, shed, garage or barn. Excessive buildup of chainsaws and other logging tools, portable mills, and all sorts of secondary woodworking tools are often also evident.

Symptoms experienced by sufferers may include dry mouth, shallow breathing and irregular heartbeat when near burl wood, quarter-sawn oak or spalted wood. Quilted maple, figured walnut and live edges have been known to cause sweating and dizziness.

People suffering from wood sickness often imagine great future profit, but are generally reluctant to part with any of the gathered wood, leading to an ever-growing supply. Thus, many hours which these men (yes, a great majority are men) could spend in productive family interactions are spent accumulating wood, arranging piles of wood, rearranging piles of wood, trading wood and shaping pieces of wood into other forms.

The most common conversion is from round to rectangular shapes which are more easily dried, arranged



and rearranged. But the wood may also be formed into floors, furniture, bowls and other household objects in the belief that it will lead to validation and acceptance of the sufferer's activities. There is of course little evidence of this ever happening.

Left untreated this condition can become an all-consuming obsession that may lead to the substitution of many familiar metal or ceramic objects with wooden versions, among other things. Treatment options are quite limited, with no pharmaceutical treatments currently available. Rumor has it they are trying out support groups on Michigan's Upper Peninsula. In acute cases impacts on the family can be severe, leaving the "woodshop widows" with little recourse but to retreat to the comfort of spinning wheels and sewing machines and the consoling fiber arts.

This article is not meant to stigmatize those with the wood sickness, but to raise awareness and understanding of those with this affliction. It is not limited to but certainly correlated with woodland ownership, and the sufferers are commonly friends and family members just trying to lead normal lives while facing future years of retirement. We are deserving of compassion and understanding.



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### Special Woodturning Project!

The club has received a request from a person who is restoring an old lawnmower and needs turned wood parts. I am guessing there will be some specific specs required. He has the required redwood, examples of the pieces that need to be turned and indicated a willingness to pay within reason.

He is located in the MacLeay area and indicated he is willing to drive to you.

Please let me know if interested, I'll connect you to him.

Thanks,

Marc Vickery

503-544-0647

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### Salem Schools seeking a small Lathe

We have received a request for a small (midi) lathe to be used to teach “some woodturning skills and possibly move into the epoxy covering skills for some advance students.” The school is West Salem High School and of course there is no budget left. This is a teacher seeking to enhance Technical or career skills.

If you have anything like this, or the tools or accessories to go with it and willing to donate, please feel free to get back to me, I'll connect you with the coordinating person.

Thanks so much for your consideration!

Marc Vickery

503-544-0647

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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-See Jerry Lelack at club meetings

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

\*CA superglue (\$5), black or brown superglue (\$10) accelerator (\$10).

\*Half round protractors (\$6) used to measure the angle ground on a tool

\*Depth gauges (\$5)

\*HSS 1/4" 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 **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 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](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**.

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<u><b>Executive Board</b></u>		<u><b>Non-Executive Positions</b></u>	
President	Marc Vickery	Newsletter Editor	Brian Skaar
Vice President	Larry Curry	Webmaster	Jeff Zens
Secretary	Brian Skaar	Wood Gathering	Randy Nichols
Treasurer	Henrik Åberg	Librarian	Roger Dirkx
Past President	Jeff Zens	Glue/Supply Sales	Jerry Lelack
Board Position 1	Bruce Stangeby	Steam-Up Coordinator	Larry Curry/Walt Theis
Board Position 2	Randy Nichols	Mentor Coordinator	Paul Hirt
		State Fair Coordinator	Bruce Stangeby
		Empty Bowls Coordinator	Darcy Tataryn
		Roster Editor	Henrik Åberg
		Facilities Coordinator	<b>OPEN</b>
		Video Coordinator	Marc Vickery
		CraftSupplies Order	Jeff Zens

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7231 Bethel Road SE



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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:

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581 Lancaster Dr SE

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