

The Burl

A monthly newsletter for the
Willamette Valley Woodturners
e-mail: wwwturners@gmail.com
We are also on Facebook



Member chapter

Volume 29, Issue 9

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

September, 2025



**Next Meeting: 6:30-8:30 PM, September 11, 2025
Salem 50+ Center**

September President's Message:

Wow, another month gone and summer is almost over.

Those of you who missed the Eric Loftstrom demo and classes really missed something. There is more detail later in the Burl so I won't go into it here.

I want to thank everyone who did demos at the State Fair. We had a great turnout of turners and fair goers. If you were a first time demo turner, please share your experience with fellow turners. We try to get a few new turners at the fair each year. You can help by letting people know that it is not as scary as they think. (If you thought it was scary, have them talk to me so I can tell them you are lying. lol).

A special thanks to **Kip Allen** for arranging everything with the fair board and for managing the entire process for WWV. Great job Kip!

I also want to second Jeff Zens' thanks to Kip from the club for the discounts that he arranged with Jimmy at D Way tools. I'm sure they will be more reliable than Craft supplies. *(See note below from Jeff on how the discount works.)*

Yann Monet will be visiting the Pacific Northwest in October. He is from France and I have been told that he is one of the best turners in Europe. He will not be our Demonstrator in October but will be doing all day demos at Darcy's shop on October 18 and 19. We will arrange for 30 to 35 chairs for each day. At this time I don't know if both days will be the same, or what the cost will be, but will announce that as soon as we know. The price will probably be \$25/day. I will announce that when we know as well.

Finally, don't forget the Celebration of Life for Dick Powell on October 4 at the Philomath Scout Lodge, 660 Clemens Mill RD, Philomath, OR 97370.

See you Thursday.

Larry

Year of Challenges from Chuck

Fell: 2025

January: Cereal Bowl or Porringer

February * Hollow Form

March * Plate or Bowl with 4 square edge

April * A turning which has a charred finish

May * 3 Legged Vessel

June * Redo an old turning

July * Something with live edge

August * For the kitchen (or grill or...cooking theme)

September * Candle stick holder off axis

Check out Carl Jacobson's video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ftsz8DFXeQM>

October * Something way outside your comfort zone

November * Miniature form no larger than 2" x 2"

December * Christmas Ornament or Holiday decoration

Note: Enhance any project as you wish [ex. texturing, coloring, burning, piercing,?]

Upcoming Presenters and Events

Date	Presenter/Event	Topic
Sept 11	Kip Allen	Basket Illusion
Sept 14	Sawdust Session	As needed: 9 AM-1 PM, Darcy Tataryn's Studio Wear your nametag and come learn or teach or practice or visit!
October 9	Dale Larson	Spheres by eye including making your own jam chucks

October 12	Sawdust Session	As needed: 9 AM-1 PM, Darcy Tataryn's Studio Wear your nametag and come learn or teach or practice or visit!
October 18-19	Yann Monet	Special visit from this top European turner who will be touring the Pacific Northwest. Don't want to miss this one!
Nov 13	Reed Gray	Coring (bowl saving systems)
Nov 16	Sawdust Session	As needed: 9 AM-1 PM, Darcy Tataryn's Studio Wear your nametag and come learn or teach or practice or visit!

September Presenter: Kip Allen

At the fair, WVV Vice President Kip Allen let me know that he was done with big bowls and was dedicating his turning efforts to basket illusion pieces. Of course, he then went on to tell me of the myriad items you can decorate with the process, so he'll still be turning all kinds of things.

At the fair, folks would get big eyes when they saw his pieces and he got very good with his efficient description of them and the process he goes through to make them. And especially how much he enjoys making them!

He said he learned from the best, but couldn't get his teacher to demo for us so said he'd do his best to pass along the lessons of his mentor.



August Meeting Notes:

Well, I wasn't at the meeting so my notes are limited. Thank you to **Jeff Wimer** and **Roger Dirkx** for getting pics to me and to those I visited with regarding Eric's demo.

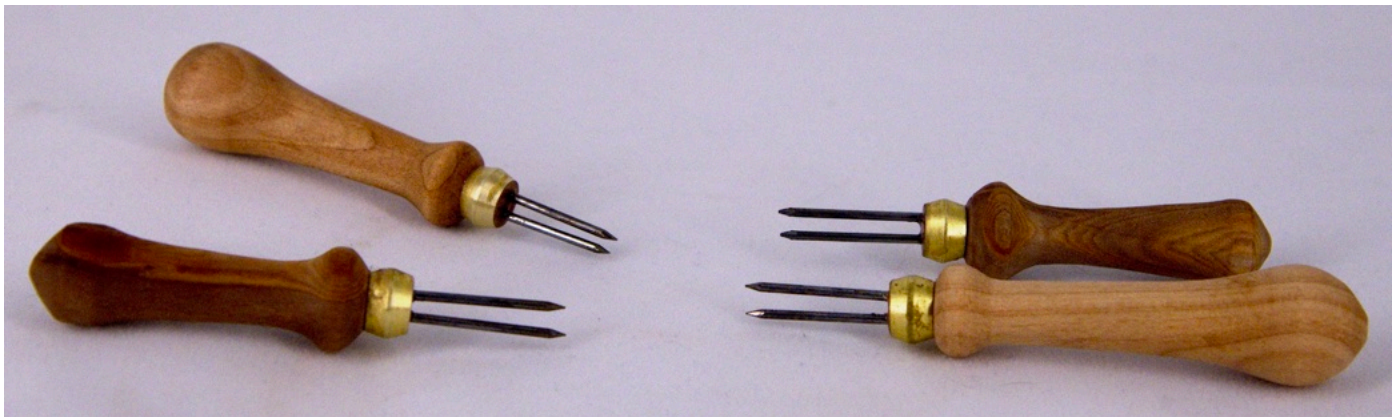
I don't know the status regarding the slate of nominees for the vote for the next board but it's coming up and the club doesn't work well without folks taking part!

Gallery Great variety of items it looked like



Above: Kip Allen, Marc Vickery

Below: Marc V





Above right: Larry Kime
Below: Mike Paul, Elling Hoem, Jeff Wimer

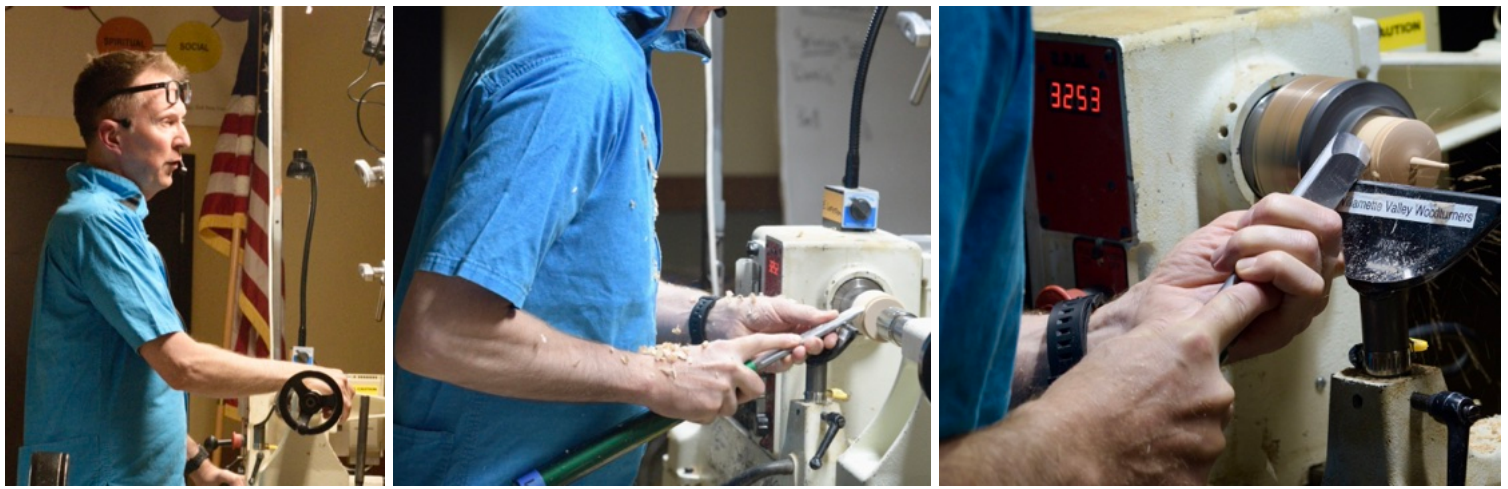


Below left: Tom Huhn



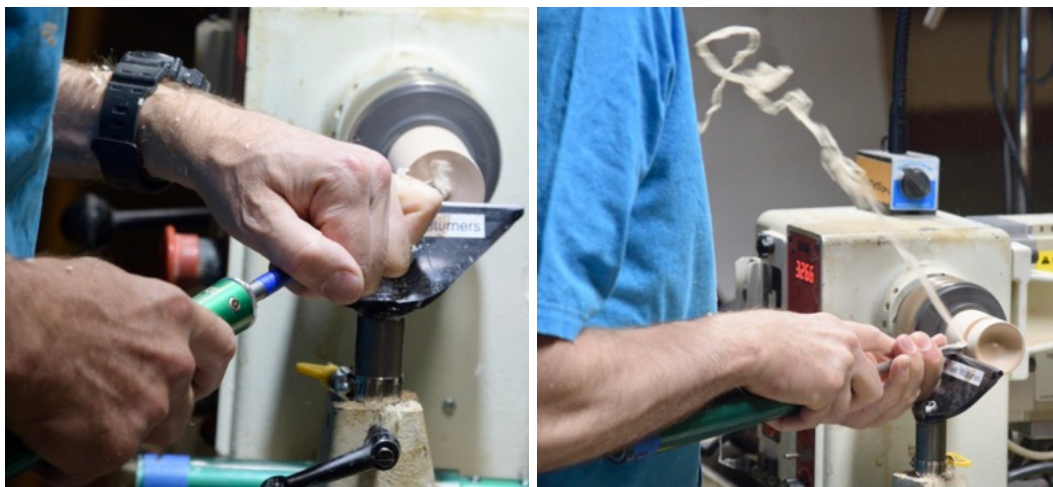
Presenter Eric Lofstrom I talked to a couple folks and they said Eric demonstrated the making of three different tops: his basic one which he makes handle first using the skew to make extremely clean cuts, a two part top, and a top that spins on a point inside which allows it to spin on your finger (or on top of any thing it can balance on) and which he also used a negative rake scraper to make. Wish I'd seen that one; would have been a hit at the state fair!

Thanks **Jeff Wimer** for catching Eric in action!

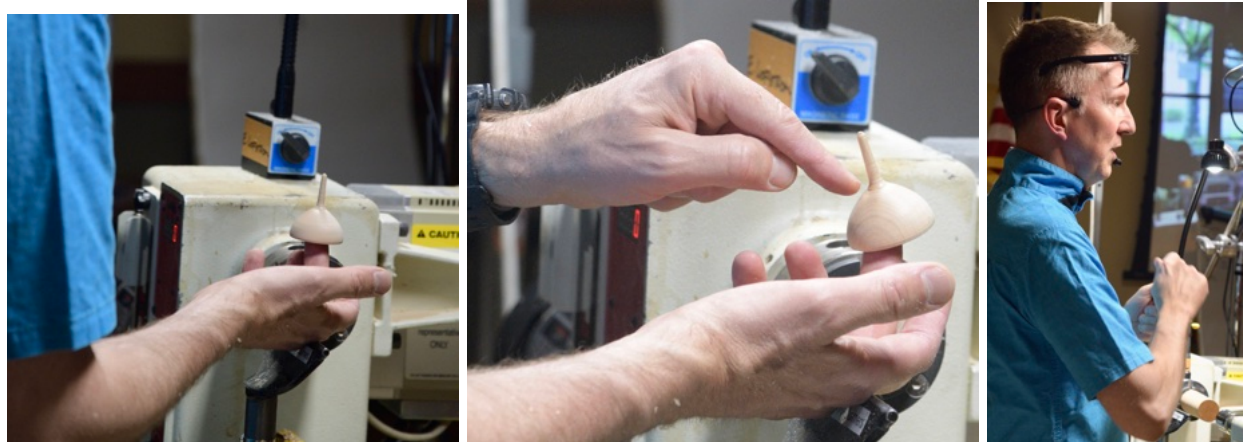


Above: peeling cut, v cuts (notice the lathe speed: 3253 rpm...)

Below: v cuts to define top and bottom



Above: spindle gouge(?) to start the hollowing, those ribbons with the negative rake scraper...



Eric Lofstrom Classes:

From **Larry Curry**: “Eric spent the entire first morning teaching us how to sharpen a skew. It included grinding, honing, and stropping. The difference between a skew that has just been ground and one that has been honed and stropped was incredible and the extra steps only take about 30 seconds. Eric says you can bring back the edge by honing and stropping about 20 times between grinding depending on the wood and cuts you are making.

He recommends a diamond hone and stropping on the rough side of a piece of stiff cow leather with a stropping compound.

NOTE: Not related to the skew but he recommends using a single light source. A light with a single, powerful led. If you use one with three leds you end up with multiple shadows and will never get a clear view of what you are turning.

In the afternoon he taught us several different cuts from a basic scrapping cut to turn square stock round, peeling cuts for first passes, planning cuts and finishing cuts.

We then practiced all of those and finished the day making eggs.

DAY 2

“This day was spent entirely on his multi axis raindrop which was quite a challenge. He does the entire thing with a skew but let us use other tools that we were more comfortable with. I think he did this to keep us from getting frustrated.

I really enjoyed this project even though my first one did not look very good. I believe the next one will be better.”

From Roger Dirkx: “Eric’s class was my first. I thoroughly enjoyed everything. He is so thorough and helpful about everything. I learned a lot and have a new appreciation for the skew. I even bought one of his skews; it has quite a unique grind on it.

I’m in the process now of making a handle for it.

The price charge (through the club) for each day was really affordable.”

Editor’s note: I have taken a couple classes with Eric and they were indeed well worth the time. Each time Eric shared the secrets to making his elegant and iconic pieces (which he sells for a pretty penny!). I think he’s willing to do this because it really shows how important the turning skills he’s teaching are.

And yes, the classes with these amazing turners have been very affordable as the WVV board believes they should be within the financial reach of everybody and are willing to subsidize them. Thank you Board!

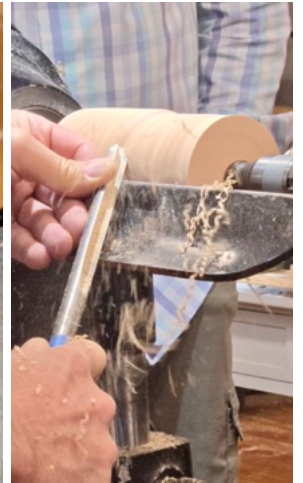
<https://www.ericlofstrom.com/>

Thanks Larry Curry and Marc Vickery for the pics!



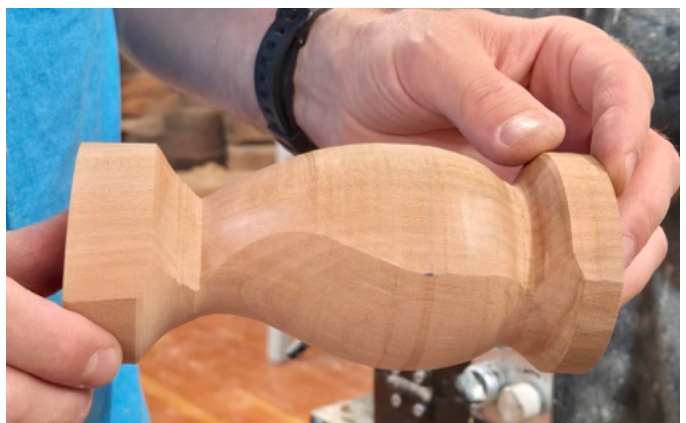
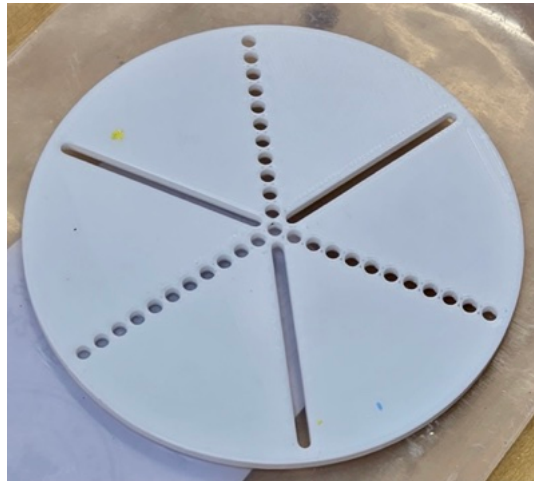
Above right: Eric’s angle gauge and platform in use for sharpening his skew

Below: the 1200 grit card sharpening stone for quick touch ups; using the strop; students using the sharpening lessons



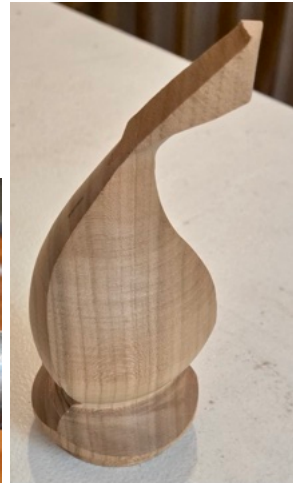
Above: Eric is big on ergonomics and recommends close attention to things like foot position, using your legs, and hands and arms position and demonstrates this doing peeling cuts; eggs and v cuts were the practice assigned; final pic is Eric using the bowl gouge like a skew

Below: Eric's grinder setup (notice the magnets above each wheel-gotta get me some of those...); his layout jig for off-set turning set up; a partially done piece showing the layout on top for where the centers go



Above: the teardrop in early stages

Below: the piece on lathe in off-set position; after what looks like some bandsaw work; Eric helping with the process



Below: Close attention to v cuts; Peter making good progress!; the piece back on the lathe for final steps(?)



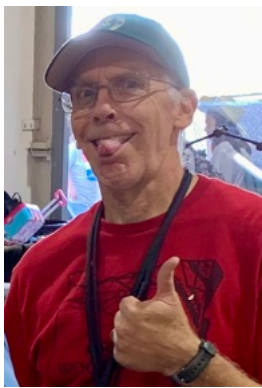
August Sawdust Session: Well, wasn't at the sawdust session either but got a few pics sent to me. Thanks **Marc!**

If you haven't been to Darcy's for a sawdust session (or haven't been in a while), come on and stop in. It's come and go as you like, a wonderful opportunity to try out different lathes, get help with techniques for turning or sharpening, or just visit to see what a great turning studio looks like. It's an amazing benefit that most clubs don't offer!



State Fair! As mentioned by Larry, the WVV booth was a happening place again this year. Tons of kids were

mesmerized by the spinning pieces being made and adults enthusiastically interested in taking up the hobby! **Jim Devorss, Walt Thies, and Kip Allen** were the marathoners manning their stations for long stints. Kip arranged 8 lathes to be set up so there was room for anyone who wanted to turn. Kip's basket illusion pieces, Jim's wide range of items, Marc's massive bowls, Jeff Z's beautiful pens, Darcy's top game, Walt's huge mushrooms, and more pulled folks in who seemingly couldn't walk by! Great time.





2" wheels do not like gravel...

Submitted by Jeff Zens

D-Way and Boxmaster Tools Discount Program

As I mentioned at last month's meeting, Vice President Kip Allen has negotiated a great deal with Jimmie Allen (D-Way Tools//Boxmaster Tools) to provide club members with really nice discounts on both his tool lines. I hope all of you received the email to this effect, but just in case you missed it, please review this reminder to take advantage of his offer.

If you are not familiar with D-Way and Boxmaster, I'm sure you can find plenty of club members (including me) who would gladly provide a hearty recommendation and endorsement of their fine quality and craftsmanship. The steel used in these tools is top-of-the-line.

The terms of the discount program are as follows:

1. Our order must meet or exceed \$1,000.00.
2. A \$1,000.00 order will be discounted 10%.
3. Orders that reach or exceed \$1,500.00 will be discounted an additional 2-3%, depending on the tools that are ordered.
4. There are a few exclusions:
 - a. Beading Tool sets, because they are already discounted. (Individual beading tools DO qualify for the discount.)
 - b. All CBN wheels, due to low inventory. This might change as inventory increases. **NOTE: CBN wheels that can be filled from existing stock can be shipped directly to you at no charge.**
 - c. Hollowing tool.
 - d. 20" handle
 - e. Double-ended Boxmaster tools.
5. Shipping is NOT free. The order will be shipped by the most economical method, and the shipping charges will be pro-rated across the complete order.
6. The price charged for each item will be the current price on the website when the order is placed. Just like Craft Supply, that price might change between when you email me and when the order is finally placed.
7. D-Way will not put items on sale at a price lower than our discounted price for a reasonable period of time after our order.

Here is what you need to do:

1. Visit <https://d-waytools.com/>
2. Browse the selection, and decide what you want to order.
3. Send an email to my regular email address (jszens@custombuiltfurniture.com) and provide me with:
 - a. The full and complete tool name: **3/8" bowl gouge, fingernail grind** for example. Just copy the name from the D-Way website.
 - b. The website price.
4. Be sure to order handles for tools!! If you need help figuring that part out, let me know, or call D-Way.

Here is what happens next:

1. I will compile the order in a spreadsheet, just like the Craft Supply process.
2. When the order reaches \$1,000 or more I will get it to Cindy, pay for it, and let you know via email.
3. When the order arrives, I will notify you - and will set a day for pickup. Usually I do this on Saturdays and/or Sundays to work around busy weekday schedules.
4. You come to the shop, pay for your tools and shipping, and go home with really great tools.

D-Way Tools - Exceptional Quality Wood Turning Tools

Finely crafted wood turning tools invented by an internationally renowned woodturner, D-Way tools specializes in bowl gouges, spindle gouges, beading tools, negative rake scrapers, parting tools and CBN wheels. Each tool is inspected and sharpened before shipment - ready to use right out of the package.

d-waytools.com

What's on my lathe!

From Marc Vickery: "Cute little applewood bowl. Trying milk paint for the first time. Wow that's a hard paint!"

(Beautiful grain, Marc! I didn't see the paint at first glance but when I did I thought it complimented the piece well.)



From **Brian Skaar** (editor): I missed last



month's meeting and related events as my wife and I headed to Montana to visit family and do our first non-working trip since before covid. I knew Sam Angelo now lives in Billings and hoped to visit with him. Sam is known on YouTube as "The Wyoming Woodturner" and did a Zoom demo for WVW on chasing threads for boxes back in Feb '23. Unfortunately our schedules didn't match well but I got about 5 minutes with him as he was scrambling to set up to demo for his local club.

On the way back we got a couple days in

Yellowstone. Really nice hikes seeing the waterfalls, geysers (Old Faithful working up a blow in pic), hot springs, and wildlife including this herd of about 50 or so bison wandering back and forth through the cars!

Yeah, we were caught in a buffalo jam for about 45 minutes...



In my note asking for submissions I mentioned a local ash tree was struck by an ash tree. That made no sense for the most part (and nobody called me on it!). The tree was struck by lightning. Mark C got a couple logs, the school got quite a bit, and I took a few and once again, did lots of wet turning. 16 bowls in this batch...



Chainsaw, bandsaw, turn outside/tenon, turn inside, wax/bag, deal with shavings, repeat. Ha!



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 (\$8), black or brown superglue (\$10) accelerator (\$16).

*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 **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 instructions for ordering, see the article accessed by clicking on "*read this document first*" which is linked to on the Place Group Order page in the Members Only part of our 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.
- **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.
- **Taylor Woodworks** offers 10% off your online order. Enter **Guild10** in the "Discount code or gift card" window when checking out.
- **Rockler** offers 10% off with a mention of membership to WVVW as well.

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)

<https://beaverstatewoodturners.org/>

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	Larry Curry	Webmaster	Jeff Zens
Vice President	Kip Allen	Newsletter Editor	Brian Skaar
Membership Director	Jeff Wimer	Wood Gathering	<u>OPEN</u>
Secretary	Terry Gerros	Librarian	Roger Dirkx
Treasurer	Jeff Wimer	Glue/Supply Sales	Jerry Lelack
Past President	Mark Vickery	Steam-Up Coordinator	<u>OPEN</u>

Board At-Large	Mark Choitz	Mentor Coordinator State Fair Coordinator Empty Bowls Coordinator Facilities Coordinator Video Coordinator CraftSupplies Order Beads of Courage Benton Co Fair OWS	Paul Hirt Kip Allen Darcy Tataryn <u>OPEN</u> Marc Vickery Jeff Zens Mark Choitz Brian Skaar Mark Choitz
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Checks payable to: Willamette Valley Woodturners

Send changes to roster information (address, e-mail, phone#) to jwimer5@comcast.net

Or via email to:

wwwpres2024@gmail.com

or

wwwturners@gmail.com