

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 11

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

November, 2025



Next Meeting: 6:30-8:30 PM, November 13, 2025
Salem 50+ Center

November President's Message:

Well, Summer is gone, the sun is gone, I've been gone and the rain and I are back. The perfect time to get into our shops and make something for the show and tell table.

Remember that December is going to be a **Dessert pot luck** so brush off those sweet treat recipes, bake something to share, and come out and relax and share stories with other members old and new.

November will be the election of the 2026 Board. The slate of potential officers recommended by the current board is:

Kip Allen	President
Brian Skaar	Vice President
Terry Gerros	Secretary
Jeff Wimer	Treasurer
Mark Bollenbeck	Membership Director
Mark Choitz	Member at Large

Nominations will be welcome from the floor before we vote.

My position, by default, will be past president. **Marc Vickery** will be leaving that position. I want to thank him for all of the great work that he has done over the last 6 years serving as Vice President, President, and Past President as well as managing set up for all of our monthly meetings. Remember that he can always use help with setup so feel free to volunteer. Mark has taken on the position of wood gathering lead. *(see note below)*

Remember, only 48 days until Christmas so get those lathes turning!
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
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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Presenter/Event</u>	<u>Topic</u>
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!
Dec 11	Dessert Potluck and best work	Bring a dessert and a friend and/or family member for a relaxing social evening. Also bring one or more of your favorite/best turnings. Does not matter if it was

	display	recently made or from earlier in your turning journey. Let's create our own instant gallery of pieces from our own club members!
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November demo: Reed Gray-coring systems

Reed, AKA Robohippy, has been around the turning world for many years. He's an innovator and designed his own line of tools, tool rests, and grinder rests that filled needs that he saw. While his tool lines are discontinued, those who are lucky enough to have procured his products do indeed appreciate them.

Reed visited us in December of '23 and did an excellent demo on using a threading jig sharing details on how to get the most out of them.

Reed shared that when he sees tools or systems, he likes to get them and do extensive time with them to find their strengths and weaknesses and how to best use them. I look forward to hearing his review, what he's found out, and how to best use the coring systems by Oneway, Woodcut, and McNaughton.



Yann Marot Demo Days:

Okay, Yann Marot is seriously talented...

Saturday had 19 and Sunday had 17 of us in attendance which included about 5 from the Beaver State Woodturners club. Yann demoed and talked us through the production and artistic work he does back in the Southeast of France. Over the course of the two days he showed us how he production turns table legs and spatulas, his "rope bowls", his "raindrop boxes", his "pebble" stacking boxes (yes, they are hollowed some), and his square opening hollowforms.

After this incredibly ambitious slate he shared a slide show of the woodturning school he works for and some of the other pieces he was unable to demo.

Some comments from attendees:

It was wonderful to watch someone so talented turn multiple pieces in a short amount of time. We enjoyed learning some history of wood turning in France and getting to see a tool being used that we had never heard of before.

Ron and Viviane.

I attended the first day of Yann's demonstrations. Wow, I was blown away at his level of bedan skills. The bedan to me seems like a more difficult skew chisel, and Yann is a master. Thanks to Darcy for hosting; it's a great space for demonstrations.

-Jesse Hibert

I especially enjoyed his bowl with a rope around it. I thought that was one of the most interesting things that I've ever seen done. He's a very nice guy and I wouldn't mind having him back again. I would like to see more of our members participate in some of these classes and demonstrations.

Kip





Above: *The Bedan* in use

Below middle: spear scraper, right: Yann likes the long handle for balance



Above left: Yann using a very effective rasp for shaping a pebble



Above is just a small sample of the hundred or so pics I took of Yann's visit. Let me know if you'd like to see more. It was an eye-opening couple days. The ease Yann has in working the tools to create these works of art was a pleasure to observe. Like Kip noted above, I sincerely hope more WVV folks take advantage of rare visits by turners of this caliber.

-Brian

The school Yann teaches part time at is called Escoulen. The website is below and is fascinating to explore!

<https://www.escoulen.com/page-formation-tourneur-sur-bois-stage-tournage-var-devenir-artiste-bois-verdon--accueil>

From Jeff Z-D-Way Tool Order Update

Since taking advantage of this deal is so different from our previous system (see Jeff's detailed description in the **Sept Burl**) Jeff has added a line to the main page of the WVV website that tells the current order amount. It is on the left side about $\frac{3}{4}$ the way down the column and labelled **The current D-Way Tools/Boxmaster Tools order is:**

As of this writing it is at \$420.

To the right is a pic of a new item offered by D-Way to help with grinder set-up.

<https://d-waytools.com/>

SHARPENING SET-UP GAUGE for D-WAY TOOLS



Two sided - both sides displayed here.



(Note: Negative Rake Scrapers use their own set-up gauge.)

From David Lichter:

On Dec. 7 from 1-4 PM the Lord & Schryver Conservancy will have a benefit show and sale of my turnings at Gaiety Hollow, 545 Mission Street. All proceeds go to the conservancy. [Lord & Schryver Conservancy](https://www.lordschryver.org/)

Below are three of David's pieces that will be available. More can be found at David's Instagram page

<https://www.instagram.com/davidlichter2>

Looks like a beautiful place there in Salem and beautiful pieces by David!



From Marc Vickery-Woodgatherers Coordinator

Woodgatherers Process and Notes:

The wood gatherers are a group of members interested in gathering wood for themselves and, if there is additional wood, to be made available to the club often at the regular meetings. Sometimes, it can be provided free; sometimes it is made available as a raffle item.

Harvesting wood as a group can be a great way to learn how to process a log for turning.

Process:

1. Wood becomes available:

- A member might notice or be made aware there is wood coming down and contacts the Woodgatherers Coordinator (currently Marc Vickery). Please feel free to **call, text or email**.
- Notice may be provided by the general public that there is wood available through a website ie. Craigslist or Marketplace.

2. Verify: As coordinator, it becomes important to verify several things about the wood being reported.

- Ownership: Who owns the wood and how can they be best contacted?
- Dimensional stats: Circumference/diameter, length. Was it already cut into firewood lengths?
- Timing of the falling: When did it come down or when is it scheduled to come down?
- Species: This is helpful to know to consider the level of interest. Most of the time only hardwoods are considered.
- Location: The club membership ranges many square miles. Some members will have no interest in traveling far.
- Specific location with address and any special notes on how to find it.
- Site topography: Flat ground or steep hillsides; some members will not be able to navigate if site challenges exist.
- Site barriers: Is location open to getting trucks close or is the wood located beyond an easily accessible spot that allows removal. Consider fences, mud, moving wood through terrain on handtrucks or wagons.

3. Organize

- As a coordinator, it is best if the verifications are all first in place. If it is a member reporting this, it is desirable that they also verify all of the above. Sometimes reports come to us from outside the membership and it may be simplest to ask a woodgathering member local to the site to go to the site to verify all the things above.
- The coordinator will generate a note to the Woodgatherers which includes all of the verified details.
- Site Coordinator: It is best to understand how the landowner will want a gathering to take place. Having a crowd show up with chainsaws on a Saturday morning may not be desirable. A woodgathering site coordinator (if other than the Woodgatherers Coordinator) needs to be specified so there will be one person representing the club leading up to and on the day of a gathering.
- Setting a date and time for doing a gathering with the gatherers will be correlated to the responses of the gatherers. Typically, we have as much as a week to organize. If a note goes out, and many reply that the timing is good, all is well. If many reply that the timing is poor, perhaps two gathering dates will be considered.
- The coordinator will communicate the final date and times and get commitment from gatherers to show up.

4. A Woodgathering

- After working with the landowner to set the particulars, the site coordinator should be the first person on site for a gathering. As needed they should check in with the owners.

- Woodgatherers going to gather should be bringing their own chainsaws, gas and oil, EAR PROTECTION, eye protection, other PPE, and wood transporting gear such as handtrucks or wagons (if needed). Food and water are each person's responsibility.
- If you are a member without a chainsaw setup bring what you can; others will help with the sawing part. Be ready to help move and carry wood and assist in other ways.
- *If you are new to processing wood for use for woodturning, this is a great opportunity to learn. There are very specific methods for this type of harvesting. IT'S NOT FIREWOOD.*
- Sometimes there's lots of wood to choose from and gatherers can take as much as they'd like. Other times the supply is limited and awareness and communication so that the sharing is equitable will be necessary.

Wood gathering events are a lot of fun besides being a great way to source turning material. Sign up on the list on the clipboard at the meeting entry or email the coordinator to be included in a gathering event!

Note from satisfied public member:

Hi Brian,

Last summer at the Benton County Fair, you were so kind as to make a cup for me out of our blue stained ponderosa pine. The wood was very wet. A few days later, I took a moisture reading of 45%. To dry the cup I covered it with a plastic bag from a dry cleaner. (From ceramics, I knew slowing the drying would help prevent cracking.) I dried the cup to 9% and then put on tung oil varnish. This is what it looks like now:

Thank you for making the cup! I do have more of that wood, if anyone is interested.

Sincerely yours,

Betty Malone

(note: The Malone's tree farm is a ways out in King's Valley, the wood is culled pine from their tree farm, and it is small-mostly under 5"-that I know of. Not really a wood gathering opportunity, but may be something some are interested in. It does have a lot of blue in it...)



HS Turning Class #2

The October 30 edition included 9 students that got after the making of snowmen. We have been making it a point to teach cutting rather than scraping and some are getting after it! Most completed their projects with plenty of time to decorate them and Marc got busy turning little noses for those who



wanted this feature. The range of turning skills is large. Some took classes last year but for one, this was their first time ever. Darcy, Jeff Z, Marc V, and I were busy for sure. Talk to Darcy if you'd like to help out!

October Meeting Notes:

VP Kip Allen gavelled the meeting to order at 6:30 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Happily, we had a very large group of about 65 folks in attendance! Great to see so many members and guests!

I (Brian Skaar) reviewed a generous donation made in Dick Powell's name to the Philomath MS lathe program from the Marys Peak Alliance, a group Dick was a big part of. They offered up to an additional \$1k in matching funds. An informal survey showed folks were interested in helping out.

-I also shared a couple certificates sent to the club by the Sons of the American Revolution in



thanks to Kip and myself for making items for their display during our time at the State Fair.

Kip sent a basket illusion bowl he made around for folks to take a look at calling it a 7 hour bowl and **offered lessons** at his shop in the making of basket illusion pieces! Very generous!

Kip announced the current slate of nominees for the board vote (see Larry's note above).

Warren G announced a woodworking magazine give-away. The collection was from a friend and there were a lot!

-Warren also announced some give-away tools from the same person including a lathe (which went to one of our young turners). Warren asked that folks contact him if interested.

Mike Paul brought a large collection of tools left over from Myron's sale last year to continue to sell.

Darcy announced that another group of home school kids will be visiting on December 8th and that helpers would be needed. More info to come.

Kip announced the December meeting would be a dessert social and turning display. More info to come.

Jeff Wimer let folks know he was taking payment for the Yann Marot demonstration days.

Gallery Well done WWV! Really interesting assortment for Chuck to take us through!



Above: Mark Choitz, (apologies; did not get name)

Below: Roland Mack (each leg a different wood species), Larry Kime (stunning segmentation)



Above: Ben Silva (way out of his comfort zone), Larry Kime
Below: Gary Dahrens



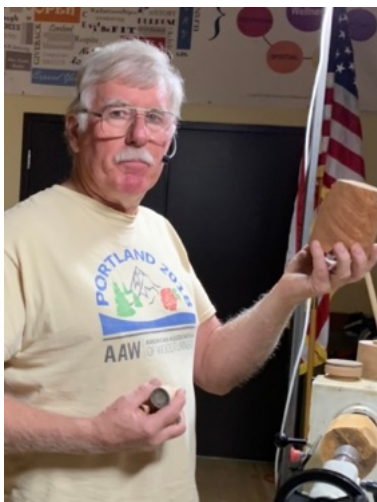
Above: Shelly
Below: Brian Skaar, Jeff Wimer (HUGE yew log turning)





Above: Kip Allen, Lance B

Below: Dale Larson collection-nested sphere, beaded sphere, inserted nested sphere, threaded hollow sphere, collection of bowls



Presenter Dale Larson

Dale started with a bit of his history sharing he got interested in 1979 and quickly got very involved with AAW rising to position of President. Huge supporter of the AAW efforts and encouraged us all to join.

He also encouraged the club not to miss the Yann Marot demonstrations reiterating Yann's standing of being one of the best turners in France.

Dale told us he was fortunate enough to learn sphere turning from Christian Burchard <https://www.burchardstudio.com/> (I looked him up. He's another oh my gosh talented wood artist... Very much suggest taking a look at his site.)

Dale introduced his sphere turning method with the caveat that this is the way he makes spheres but that it's not the only way or even the best way for us. It's just the way that he turns them.

The following are the steps Dale sent that he uses to turn a sphere:

1. Put the piece of wood between center and turn round.

2. true up one end square.
3. take the calipers and measure the diameter
4. Using the calipers mark the diameter along the length of the cylinder measuring from the trued up end
5. true up second end so the diameter and length are equal
6. measure the length of the cylinder and put a pencil mark around the middle of the cylinder
7. turn both ends round without going below round or touching the center line. It is better to leave a little extra wood at this step because you can take it off the next step. Leave a little flat near the points on each end for measuring
8. Take the roughed out sphere off the lathe and remove the extra wood where the points were holding it. Put the cup chucks in the headstock and tailstock livecenter.
9. Looking at the center line of the rough sphere, rotate it 90 degrees and put the line parallel to the bed of the lathe and lightly close the cup chucks to hold it in place.
10. using a small ruler center the sphere in the cup chucks. This is done by moving the tool rest close to the sphere. You have to make the distance from the tool rest to the sphere the same in two ways. Using the flat on the “ends” of the rough sphere, make them equal distance from the tool rest. Then use the two sides of the pencil line and make them equal from the tool rest. This gets the sphere back to center.
11. tighten cup chucks on sphere
12. when you turn lathe on now you will see a shadow and a solid sphere. The solid sphere is round. The out of round is the shadow so turn it off. You have to be nice and use a light touch or you will knock the sphere out of round.
13. mark another line on the new center.
14. Take the sphere out of the cup chucks and put both lines parallel to the bed. You will notice that there are two points where the lines cross from the two pencil marks. These two crosses go into the cup chucks. This puts both lines parallel to the bed.
15. center the sphere again using step 10.
- 16 When you turn on the lathe there will be a small shadow. Turn this off and you now have a sphere.
17. If you do each step correctly, turning on three axis results in a sphere. If you make a mistake and turn it a little small in one area, just mark a new center line and rotate it 90 degrees and turn it again. Repeat this step as many times as needed to get it round.
18. sand the sphere moving it at least twice between cup chucks for each grit.



Above: Dale started by sharing some of the jigs he uses. These were made basically from scrap wood including a jam chuck to be used later and cup chucks lined with a cork/rubber pad (Dale said he got this from Lee Valley). Truing to cylinder, squaring ends, (not shown is using calipers to find “length” and parting other end), turn half sphere.

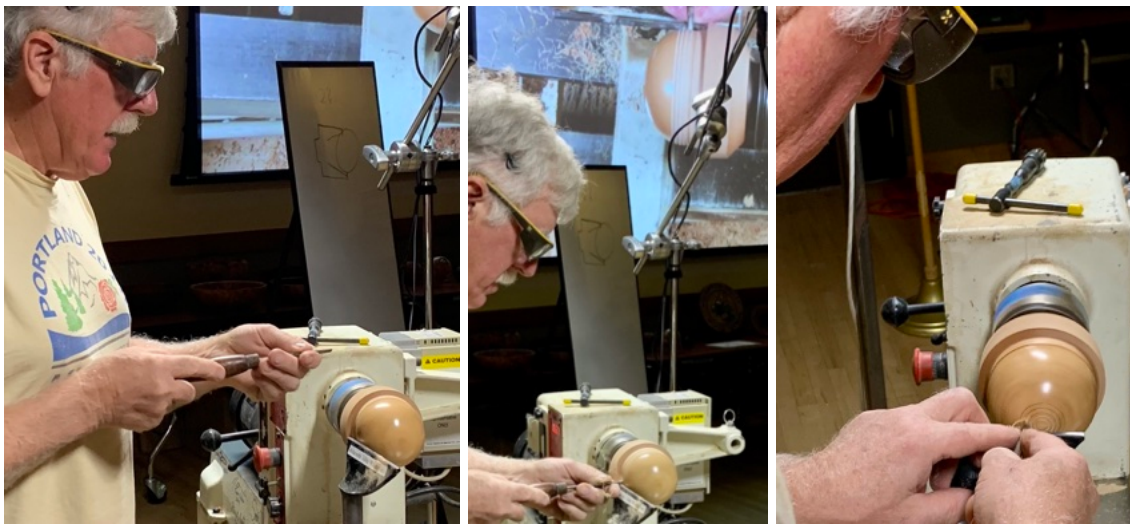
Below: Turn other half (both just need to be close but on the too big side), draw center line and cut off, place between cup chucks with line parallel with ways, measure from tool rest to line both sides and tool rest to flat “ends” both sides adjusting as needed, turn off “ghost”-be gentle as sphere can easily go off center and make more steps later (after ghost gone make new center line)

Dale’s cup chucks go into the headstock morse taper and into the tiny morse taper of his OneWay live center with the point removed.



Above: After a couple 90° switches sand the sphere in cup chucks turning often. Dale's jam chuck has a soft tip "plunger" to pop out the sphere as needed. He has numerous ones for different sized spheres. The inside angle is very steep, 3-5°, and deep enough the sphere doesn't bottom out. Sphere should seat in jam chuck just short of the center and will be very secure (below-Marc was unable to pull it out, thus the need for the "plunger") Dale's plunger dowel was unable to fit through the Jet's spindle so he had to shorten it...





Above: Dale showed cutting beads near the center using a beading tool. He said an odd number of beads seems to look the best. Beads on the end he said cannot be made with a beading tool; he used a triangular pointed tool for these. He made the tool from a round file sharpened on grinder. Dale said to remember to sand before repositioning sphere.

Below: Dale explained making the nested spheres project saying the project goes from small to large saying you hollow the next size up and then enlarge the hole until smaller sphere barely pops in. It will not come out! Hollowing is similar to other hollowing starting with a depth hole with a drill. He does use blue tape to reinforce the jam chuck connection.

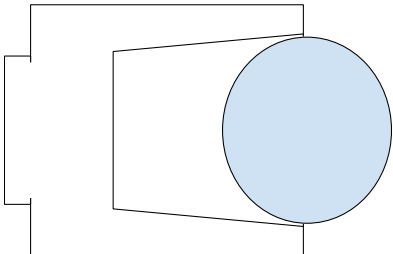
Dale explained his threaded hollow spheres and how it's a tricky process. He said he applies CA glue to the threads after each pass to keep the threads sharp.

Dale passed a bowl and folks bought raffle tickets to win the spheres turned in the demo. Congrats Rick and Jeff!



Wow wow wow! Thank you Dale! Like all great presenters you were so clear and organized it made it seem like beautiful complex spheres were within reach! I will definitely be giving it a try.

Below: My attempt to draw the jam chuck Dale used. If too big, you just cut it down towards the chuck.



October Sawdust Session: About a dozen folks showed up for some make stuff and talk stuff and prepare stuff time. Good stuff!

Pete brought it a good sized burl with the question of how to cut it or turn it. Hopefully from the various suggestions he'll find one that works for him!



The session ended with setting up the room for Yann's demo. Lots for space!
(Thanks for taking some pics Marc!)



What's on my lathe!

Left from Chuck Fell: One of my neighbors gave me this unknown wood to turn for him. Hopefully it will turn out to be a useful bowl with lots of cracks and bark inclusions.

Right from Rick Jarosz: I finally finished my recent project. It was pretty time consuming...



Center from Brian Skaar: As I wrote above, I wanted to give Dale's sphere making a try. While I like to use the octagon system for making the sphere more (at least for now), I was blown away with the effectiveness of the jam

chuck!

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 **Marc Vickery**.

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 WVV 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	Marc Vickery
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	Paul Hirt

		State Fair Coordinator Empty Bowls Coordinator Facilities Coordinator Video Coordinator D-Way Order Beads of Courage Benton Co Fair OWS	Kip Allen Darcy Tataryn <u>OPEN</u> Marc Vickery Jeff Zens Mark Choitz Brian Skaar Mark Choitz
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Send changes to roster information (address, e-mail, phone#) to jwimer5@comcast.net

Or via email to:

wwwpres2024@gmail.com

or

wwwturners@gmail.com