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Keep Turning with the AAW

December 2019

Holiday Greetings!



TURNING OF THE WEEK



Jeff Jackson
Cherry Burl lidded box
2.75" x 2.75"

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED!

Last Friday, AAW launched its next generation technology and website. **To log in to the new website for the first time, you must use your email address as your username and reset your password. [Click here for step-by-step instructions.](#)** Watch for new enhancements that will be introduced in the coming weeks.

**WEEKLY PICKS:
SKILL DEVELOPMENT, EXPERIMENTATION,**

PROBLEM-SOLVING, AND DESIGN

Becoming a capable woodturner takes practice, lots of practice. Proficient technical skills and problem-solving abilities are gained through dedicated repetition and training. What's more, your design ideas will evolve along with your expertise. With practice, you'll be able to more successfully bring your visions to life and dream of new possibilities.

Today's picks cover elements of the woodturning process: skill development, experimentation, problem-solving, and design. We're hoping this material will help inform and inspire you, whether you're a beginner, expert, or something in between.

Note: Because we have moved to a new website, the method for accessing Explore! articles has changed. To open/view this week's picks, click the link in this email, then click either the "Download" button or the article link. See illustration below.

The screenshot shows a web page from the American Association of Woodturners (AAW) Explore! library. The article is titled "Profile: Craft and Art: The Expressive Realm of Beth Ireland". It was posted 12 days ago by an Admin User. The article has 0 favorites, 2 views, 1 file, 0 shares, and 0 downloads. Below the title, there is a section for "Attachment(s)" which contains a PDF file named "AW3004p41-47.pdf" (2.02MB, 1 version, uploaded on 12-04-2019). A red arrow points to the "Download" button next to the file. Another red arrow points to the "Tags and Keywords" section, which includes a "Add a tag" button. The URL of the article is woodturner.org/explore/article/craft-and-art-the-expressive-realm-of-beth-ireland.

Articles of the Week

In her article, "Craft and Art: The Expressive Realm of Beth Ireland," from the August 2015 issue of *American Woodturner*, Betty Scarpino recounts the story of Beth Ireland's journey to success and how it required years of intense, focused, sustained work. Click here for a direct link to the article.

[Click here for a direct link to the article.](http://woodturner.org/explore/article/craft-and-art-the-expressive-realm-of-beth-ireland)

The thumbnail image shows a man, Beth Ireland, working on a large wooden boat-shaped vessel. The image is labeled "FEATURE". Below the image, the title "CRAFT AND ART: THE EXPRESSIVE REALM OF BETH IRELAND" is displayed in large, bold letters, followed by the author's name "Betty Scarpino". At the bottom of the thumbnail, there is small text indicating the article is from the August 2015 issue of *American Woodturner*. The URL woodturner.org and copyright information "Copyright 2015, 2016, American Association of Woodturners. All rights reserved." are also visible.

In his article, "Evolution of a Design," from the Spring 2004 issue of *American Woodturner*, Jim Rinde describes his design journey. As a research chemist who worked with epoxy resins for 25 years, Jim says he imagines the possibilities and combines experimentation and problem-solving to create unique designs. Click here for a direct link to the article.

[Click here for a direct link to the article.](#)

TURNING TECHNIQUES

Evolution of a Design

By Jim Rinde



Photos: David Frank and Jim Rinde

What is the thought process that occurs when someone comes up with a new design for a turned object? I'm sure there are many ways, but it may be useful to examine one where serendipity played an important role.

When I started woodturning in 1988, I decided to incorporate my professional training. I was a research chemist and I worked for about 25 years with epoxy resins by developing products, publishing technical papers and receiving patents in epoxy resin technology.

I have heard some woodturners say that they look to ceramists and potters for inspiration and design ideas. With epoxy resins, there's a new source for inspiration—glass! Imagine combining turned wood with glass; the warmth and texture of wood with the clarity and colors of glass.

Glass artists can achieve many effects through pressure, fluorescence, or temperature. These effects also are possible with epoxy resins but the results will not be exactly the same. Now let's consider the possibilities.

All the pieces shown in this article are made from the same epoxy resin—only the dyes, pigments, and fillers are changed to get different colors.

After many years of hacking and whacking as a self-taught turner, I joined the AAW and the Bay Area Woodturners in 1998. Soon afterward, I started attending symposiums and design classes. In 2000, I watched Allan Barnes turn a long-stemmed goblet along with several other items. This was a real inspiration for me.

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American Woodturner - Spring 2004

Hack of the Week

Design: Static vs. Dynamic

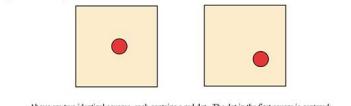
In his tip, "Static vs. Dynamic," from the July issue of *Woodturning FUNdamentals*, Keith Tompkins describes simple design ideas you'll want to keep in mind to generate visual interest and movement in your work.

[Click here for a direct link to the article.](#)

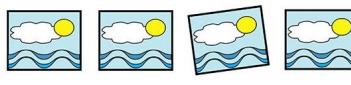
TIPS: DESIGN

Static vs. Dynamic

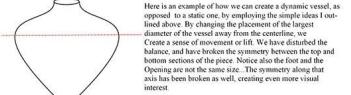
By Keith Tompkins



Above are two identical squares, each contains a red dot. The dot in the first square is centered, while the dot in the second square is randomly placed inside the square. The dot in the first square is balanced, and gives a sense of equilibrium. It generates little visual interest. The off-center dot in the second square catches the attention of the casual observer, who instinctively wants to straighten the picture, thus restoring balance. The first square can be considered STATIC, while the second square has a DYNAMIC quality. Could we use this concept to our advantage as wood turners?



Four identical paintings are hanging on a wall, yet one attracts your attention when you walk past it. Why? It's not hanging squarely, as the others are. Similar to the red dot above, our mind's eye wants to straighten the picture, thus restoring balance. Can you think of a way to incorporate this sense of TENSION into your work?



Here is an example of how we can create a dynamic vessel, as opposed to a static one, by employing the simple idea I outlined above. By changing the placement of the largest diameter of the vessel away from the centerline, we have broken the symmetry of the piece. We have also打破了平衡, and broken the symmetry between the top and bottom sections of the piece. Notice also the foot and the shoulder of the vessel. Both of these features and axis has been broken as well, creating even more visual interest.

(Selection from *Woodturning Fundamentals*, July 2012)

AAW | woodturner.org

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Video of the Week

In this video, Tim Yoder presents the various tools and equipment he uses for efficient use of space in his small shop (wasps not included).

[Tools for Turners with Tim Yoder \(TRT 9:21\)](#)



Quotes of the Week

"My real education was thirty years in a woodshop, where I developed the technical skills and problem-solving abilities to easily accomplish whatever I envisioned in the realm of sculpture."

"For me, a piece becomes important when it leads me to a whole new investigation."

Beth Ireland, from "Craft and Art: The Expressive Realm of Beth Ireland," *American Woodturner*, August 2015

SEE YOUR STORY IN KEEP TURNING

Has your chapter done something extraordinary to promote woodturning in your community? Have you participated in an awesome woodturning event? Do you have fantastic woodturning photos as well? Send your short story and photos to AAW at memberservices@woodturner.org.



Rod Smith and Les Black, honored members of the Cumberland Woodturners.

BLACK AND SMITH HONORED

The [Cumberland Woodturners](#), Crossville, Tennessee, have honored Les Black and Rod Smith for their extraordinary support of the chapter. Les, during his eleven years of club membership, has served as club librarian and treasurer and is one of the club's four designated mentors. All of the chapter's meetings, hands-on workshops, and guest demonstrations are held at Les's workshop, where he generously shares his lathes, tools, and expertise. Rod, a chapter member since 2004, has served as president and treasurer and is the club's videographer, webmaster, and a designated mentor. Les and Rod are the grease and the glue of the Cumberland Woodturners!



Kelly Wagner, McLane Children's Hospital, accepts donated Beads of Courage boxes from Brazos Valley Woodturners members Ken Mays and Norm Burgess.

TEXAS CHAPTERS SUPPORT SICK CHILDREN

Each year, the [Southwest Association of Turners](#) (SWAT) symposium exhibits [Beads of Courage](#) boxes turned by club members. The 2019 symposium displayed 285 boxes. Of these, 81 boxes turned by members of the [Brazos Valley Woodturners](#), Waco, Texas, and 51 boxes turned by members of the [Coastal Bend Woodturners](#), Corpus Christi, Texas, were delivered to [McLane Children's Hospital](#) in Temple, Texas.

SOUTH PLAINS PROMOTES WOODTURNING AT FAIR

In September, the [South Plains Woodturner](#), Lubbock, Texas, participated in the [Panhandle South Plains Fair](#). Their booth included a multi-media center set up with a TV screen that displayed woodturning videos and an information area. AAW provided a stack of literature that guests quickly snapped up. A total of twenty-three club members manned the booth and they grew their prospect list to nearly 200 names. On the last day of the fair, they



Jim Harris and Coy Hunt dole out smiles and woodturning information during the fair.

signed a contract for the same spot in 2020.

CRAFT SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Deadline: January 15, 2020

The AAW is pleased to offer a total of 28 scholarships for quality woodturning instruction at [Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts](#), Gatlinburg, Tennessee, and [John C. Campbell Folk School](#), Brasstown, North Carolina.

Scholarships cover tuition only for courses in 2020; room, board, and travel expenses are the responsibility of the recipient. Selected Masters classes taught at Arrowmont carry an additional \$125 tuition premium, which will be the responsibility of the scholarship recipient. [All current AAW members who belong to an AAW chapter are eligible to self-nominate by completing an online application form, click here.](#)

If more members are nominated than the total number of available scholarships, a drawing will determine the winners. Winners will be notified by January 21, 2020.

ARROWMONT
school of arts and crafts

**John C. Campbell
Folk School**



Mount Pleasant High School students pose with their completed bowls and their instructors.

FIRST STATE TEACHES STEM STUDENTS

Over four-and-a-half weeks, the [First State Woodturners](#), New Castle, Delaware, taught woodturning to 120 STEM (a school with curriculum based on disciplines of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) students at nearby [Mount Pleasant High School](#). By the end of the program, more than 80 students had turned a wooden bowl. When word spread about the success of the program, district administrators, teachers, and parents came to watch the sessions. The school district awarded certificates of appreciation to the FSW instructors: Tom Sloan, Eric Krum, Steve Childers, Mike Adams, Jack Donovan, Margaret DeMarco, Joe Nestlerode, David Beehler, and Don Pivonka.

APPLY FOR AN AAW GRANT

Deadline: December 31

AAW grants are available to individuals, chapters, schools, and non-profit organizations for woodturning education. In addition to monetary awards, up to ten mini-lathe packages are available for award each year. Regular AAW grants are awarded on an annual basis. To be eligible, applications must be received by December 31 for grants given in the following year. Women in Turning (WIT) grants and others for under-represented populations, events, and exhibitions are awarded quarterly. [Click here for detailed grant descriptions and application information.](#)

Student EOG Recipient Builds Lathe

In April 2019, Niles Wertz received a \$1,000 grant from the AAW to help fund the expansion of his turning shop and the fabrication of a custom lathe. "While in high school, I produced and sold many turned items, as both a hobby and a source of income." Niles says. "But by my senior year, I had outgrown my 1941 lathe and was looking to streamline production and turn larger pieces. I began to design a larger lathe that was both affordable and could handle large turnings." With the money from the AAW grant, Niles purchased the materials and components to fabricate the lathe. Over the next few months, he spent hundreds of hours welding, machining, and assembling the custom lathe. "My new lathe is exactly what I needed to grow my woodturning business," he reports. "The powerful variable-speed motor allows me to turn and sand efficiently all different-sized bowls. So far, I have turned many small pieces, plus bowls and plates up to 21" in diameter. Thank you to the AAW and its members for this opportunity and for supporting the education and development of young woodturners."



Student EOG recipient Niles Wertz poses with his custom lathe, made possible by AAW funds.



Girl Scouts Turn It Up with an AAW Grant

Two years ago, Minnesota Lakes Girl Scouts had no organized opportunities for girls

to learn about using equipment and power tools. Then an AAW grant provided money for to purchase woodturning equipment to be used to train registered adult Girl Scout volunteers. With the help of the AAW grant and the training offered by the [Minnesota Woodturners Association](#), the Girl Scouts now have an avenue to explore woodturning and continue learning. To date, the first group of five women has been trained in safety and basic turning techniques. Once they practice, gain more skill, and can fly solo without the experienced oversight of the Minnesota Woodturners Association, they plan to use the equipment to teach the girls. Girl Scouts intends to continue to expand their group of new woodturners and become active members of the local turning community.

CALL: VIDEOGRAPHERS FOR AAW'S 2020 SYMPOSIUM

Deadline: February 15, 2020

The AAW seeks videographers for its 34th International Symposium in Louisville, Kentucky, June 4-7, 2020. Applicants must have experience with video camera equipment, possess technical competence, and be able to make decisions regarding what is being turned, camera position, shooting angle, etc. The application process will be open from December 15, 2019, through February 15, 2020. Selected videographers will be notified by March 2020. [Click here for more information or to apply.](#)



WOODTURNERS OF ST. LOUIS HELPS THANK VETERANS

To raise awareness and thank America's Veterans, [Rockler Woodworking](#) held a special event in each of their retail locations on November 9. During the event, each store offered penturning classes and proceeds were donated to the National Veterans Foundation. Local AAW chapter members served as mentors for participants. [Woodturners of St. Louis](#), St. Louis, Missouri, was one of the AAW chapters that took part in the event. The chapter coached more than twenty-five participants during the event and most of them were first-time turners. Woodturners of St. Louis members who mentored turners at the event were: Laura Spelbring, Rob Conaway, Charles Sapp, Jeff Nasser, and Steve Reynolds. Additionally, Woodturners of St. Louis members donated pens to Woodcraft for their Pens for the Troops program.



CALL: NATURE/NURTURE: 2020 POP EXHIBITION AND AUCTION

Deadline: January 11, 2020

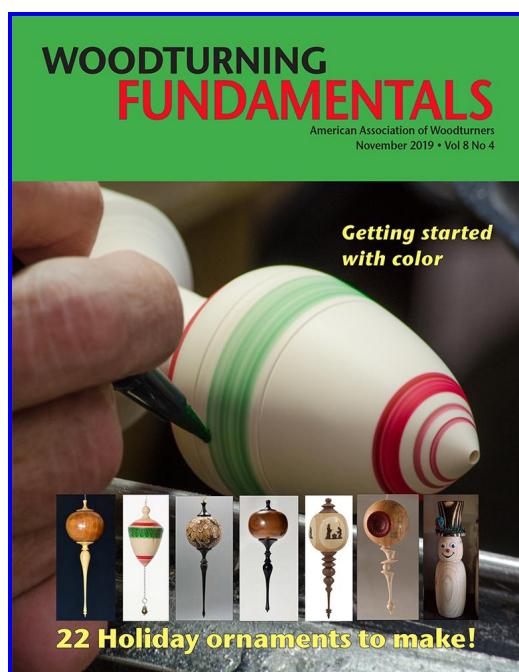
The Professional Outreach Program (POP) is pleased to announce its 2020 exhibition and auction theme, Nature/Nurture. As always, the theme is meant to be a starting point for inspiration, and this year is no exception. The juried portion of the show is open to any AAW member and to full-time students in art, design, or industry-related degree programs, regardless of membership status. [Click here for more information and to apply.](#)

ETOWAH RIVER GIVES BACK TO COMMUNITY

[Etowah River Woodturners](#) (ERW), of Canton, Georgia, is actively focused on giving back to community. In September, ERW held its annual woodturning show at [Cherokee County Art Center](#). The show featured work created by the chapter's membership, as well as a display of 18 [Beads of Courage](#) bowls and 20 wig stands. In October, ERW membership turned and donated 200 pens for veterans. And then in December, ERW donated a Christmas tree decorated with member-turned and donated ornaments to a local senior living center in Cherokee County, Georgia.

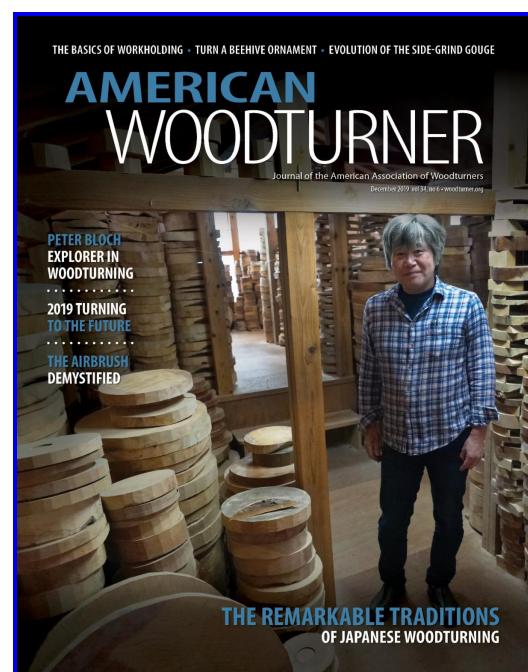


Larry McClish (ERW) Katie Mullinax (Georgia Cancer Care), Nancy Mezick (ERW and Northside Hospital Nurse) delivering wig stands



WOODTURNING FUNDAMENTALS

The November 2019 issue of Woodturning Fundamentals is available online. The issue includes a variety of



AMERICAN WOODTURNER

The December 2019 issue of American Woodturner features Evolution of the Side-Grind Gouge, The

holiday turning projects, including fencepost snowman, birdhouse ornament, multi-axis turkey toothpick holder, pull-string spinning top, and more.

[Click here to view the current issue.](#)

Basics of Workholding, The Airbrush Demystified, Peter Bloch: Explorer in Woodturning, Fifty-Eight Generations of Woodturners, and more. Additionally, the issue includes an easy-to-make holiday skill-building project, "Turn a Beehive Ornament."

[Click here to view the current issue.](#)

QUALIFY FOR AAW'S ANNUAL LATHE DRAWING

Make sure your AAW membership dues are current no later than

January 2. Each month the AAW draws names from its membership roster for prizes, such as tuition, gift certificates, supplies, DVDs, chucks, grinding jigs, and more, all donated by respected sponsors. And at year-end, the AAW draws a member name to receive a Powermatic 3520C lathe. That winner names a local chapter to receive either a JET 1642 or five JET mini-lathes, donated by Powermatic/JET. AAW

members will be entered for a chance to win, but to qualify for the drawing your dues must be current. Anyone whose membership is expired or lapsed will miss this special opportunity. [View monthly sponsors and past drawing winners.](#)



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SYMPORIUM REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

AAW's 34th Annual International
Symposium
Louisville, Kentucky
June 4-7, 2020

Step up to the plate and accept the challenge to up your game. You'll find experts from around the globe who will share their techniques and insights to help you bring your woodturning abilities to the next level.



[Click here for details and registration.](#)

Registration
is open!

Demonstrators: Nick Agar, Michael Alguire, Stuart Batty, Simon Begg, Dixie Biggs, Michael Blankenship, Trent Bosch, Bruce Campbell, Pat Carroll, Jason Clark, Nick Cook, Rebecca DeGroot, Mick Hanbury, Kurt Hertzog, Michael Hosaluk, Janice Levi, Art Liestman, Tom Lohman, Pete Marken, JoHannes Michelsen, Mark Palma, Doug Schneiter, Mark Sfirri, Jennifer Shirley, Dan Tilden, Craig Timmerman, John Underhill, and Donna Zils Banfield.

Demonstration topics, panel discussion, and schedule to be announced.

Special Interest Night: Do you have a topic you would like to present? Please contact linda@woodturner.org.



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