

Women in Turning Newsletter

September 2016



WIT Thank You

Thank you to all the volunteers, leads, and teachers who participated in the WIT Adult Education Room at the 2016 Atlanta Symposium. We especially wish to recognize Suzanne Kahn and her work to make the event such a success. We had 57 participants in seven hands-on rotations.



Hands on action in the Women In Turning Adult Education room. Suzanne Kahn demonstrating natural edge bowls. (Photo by Andi Wolfe.)

Women In Turning Hands-On Atlanta

By Suzanne Kahn

Adult hands-on educational programming had never been offered at the AAW International Symposium before—Women In Turning changed all that! When the idea was first proposed to the AAW board of directors they were skeptical. Endless questions were posed to the WIT committee: How will we be able to design and organize programming, raise money, recruit volunteers, secure donations of materials and equipment with such a short timeline? Would people even be interested in signing up? Our answer: Just watch!

Using old-fashioned grass roots methods and modern social media platforms,

WIT was ready to go within six months, meeting all the requirements of the board necessary to earn the green light and to begin publicizing. Preregistration for classes filled quickly, and women not even expecting to attend the symposium signed up to learn and to volunteer.

There were seven classes offered, including the safe set up and use of common woodturning equipment, multi axis turning, natural edge green wood bowls, and more. Two panel discussions were also offered to discuss personal expression in turned wood art, teaching and demonstrating techniques. Each class was taught by, assisted by, and had volunteer support from WIT members!

After each class rotation, participants were asked for feedback. Here's a sample of what we heard:

Newsletter Changes

You may have noticed that there was no WIT newsletter in July. Our committee member and editor, Betty Scarpino, decided to step down from her WIT commitments in order to pursue her art endeavors. Thank you, Betty, for being instrumental in the formation of the WIT committee and for serving as our newsletter editor.

The WIT committee revisited the publishing schedule and agreed to change to sending a newsletter on a quarterly basis. We will begin following this schedule with the current issue. Andi Wolfe has agreed to serve as our editor for the next year. We encourage participation from all women in turning. If you have articles of interest for this group, please send them to Andi (andiwolfe@yahoo.com).

NEW WIT Committee Member

Sally Ault has agreed to serve on the WIT committee. Sally lives in the San Diego area and has been a member of AAW since 2004.

1) The energy and positive attitude of the teachers made me comfortable and willing to try new things. 2) It was empowering to see women in leadership roles. 3) Best class I ever took. 4) The teachers were professional, organized and calm. 5) I learned much more than I thought I would in such a short time. 6) I had no idea there were so many talented women turners. 7) Learning by doing is so much better than watching. 8) Youths are not the only beginners; it's about time adults had the same opportunity.

Next year the International Symposium will be held in Kansas City. There won't be another WIT room, but the committee is brainstorming now about what we can offer. Please contact the WIT committee about your ideas!

2017 WIT EOG Project

Next year's AAW Educational Opportunity Grant Project is titled ***Open and Shut***. The title is a play on the theme of boxes. Women in Turning are encouraged to submit a box for the project; there is a limit of one donation per person. There must be turning involved in the making of the piece. The pieces will be presented grouped together in a custom-designed display. When shut, the display will look like a box but will accordion open to reveal shelves of the little boxes. There is a size restriction: boxes can be no larger than 4" tall x 2.5" x 2.5".

To have time for professional photos and to take advantage of early publicity for promotion to potential buyers, your contribution must be delivered by **January 31, 2017**.

There will be a submission form published on the AAW/WIT FB page and on the WIT group site. Watch for the information to be announced later this fall, along with information about shipping instructions.

Put your thinking caps on and let's make this another fun and successful project!

Boxes: L to R and Top to Bottom:

**Sally Ault
Linda Ferber
Andi Wolfe**



You Can Encourage New Members

The mission of WIT is to encourage and retain women in woodturning. Here are some suggestions of how you can help: 1) Introduce a friend or neighbor to woodturning by bringing her to a chapter meeting, 2) accompany her to an open shop session, 3) teach her in your own shop, and/or 4) offer to be her mentor for a year.

If there is a new member in your chapter who is not yet a member of AAW, tell her about AAW's 60-day guest membership: <http://www.woodturner.org/page/GuestMemberLanding>

Pay it forward. Instead of telling a new member about the guest membership, buy her a membership. In return, she can pay it forward by bringing another new member into the AAW. This generous gift may be the beginning of a lifetime of enjoyment for many new woodturners.

“One of the secrets to staying young is to always do things you don't know how to do, to keep learning.” - Ruth Reichl

Women in Turning Make a Difference in South Africa

The 2016 Working with Wood Show, in association with the Association of Woodturners South Africa (AWSA), was held at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) George Campus from 26-28 August 2016. Carmen De la Paz was there, representing WIT and Turners Without Borders as part of an effort to bring woodturning to communities who could benefit from training in wood turning.

Read all about it here: <http://www.bizcommunity.com/Article/196/640/149353.html>

WIT Newsletter Editor: Andi Wolfe - andiwolfe@yahoo.com

Women in Turning Gallery



***It Satisfied My Soul No. 7* - by Donna Banfield (2016)**

Maple box turned in the Richard Raffan Style, pyro-engraved and textured leaf pattern, hand-painted pearlesized blue acrylic.

Dimensions: 4" high x 3" wide

Currently in the collection of Norman and Nora Stevens.



***Acorn Purse* - by Janice Levi**

Dimensions: 6 1/2" high X 5" wide



***Salt Boxes* - by Kalia Kliban (2016)**

L: Walnut, R: Cherry

Dimensions: Walnut - 4" high x 4" wide

Cherry - 3" high X 4 1/4" wide

"Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement." - Helen Keller



Fruits of Our Labor

Fruits of Our Labor Catalog is now available

The “Fruits of Our Labor” catalog is now available from lulu.com.

The link for ordering a catalog is: <http://www.lulu.com/content/paper-back-book/fruits-of-our-labor/19308683>



WIT Regional Ambassadors Program (RAP)

One way to increase participation of women in turning is to reach out to the AAW chapters. WIT RAP aims to serve as a vehicle for this kind of outreach. There are currently 16 regions designated, 11 of which are shown on this map, but we have many unfilled positions. For the USA, we hope to have an ambassador for each state. We would also like to have an ambassador in countries with AAW members.

Currently we have ambassadors in Alaska, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, and Washington for the USA, and in Canada and Puerto Rico.

Regional Ambassadors communicate with local chapters to facilitate interaction of women in turning, and attend regional activities to promote women in turning. If you would like to find out more about the WIT Regional Ambassadors Program, contact Linda Ferber at Linda@woodturner.org.

Women in Turning Committee Contact Information:

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“I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved.”

– B. R. Ambedkar

Women in Turning (WIT) is dedicated to encouraging and assisting women in their pursuit of turning, to sharing ideas and processes to further members' skills and creativity, and to increasing participation of women in the field of woodturning.