

Women in Turning Newsletter

March 2018



Jean LeGwin and a Story of Volunteering

by Betty Scarpino

WIT committee member Jean LeGwin was chosen to receive AAW's Honorary Lifetime Member award for 2018. AAW's Board of Directors (BoD) unanimously decides each year's recipient. Jean definitely deserves this award! There will be an article about Jean's many contributions in June's American Woodturner (AW), and two speeches at the Portland Symposium's award ceremony, one by Malcolm Zander introducing Jean and outlining her volunteering activities for the AAW, the second speech by Jean.

I want to tell a more personal story about Jean and set it in the larger context of volunteering and developing supportive connections within the woodturning field. I first "met" Jean by phone, I recall it was 2008. I was serving on AAW's Professional Outreach Program (POP) and Jean had just been elected to AAW's BoD. As part of my POP activities, I volunteered to write articles about POP events for AW. Jean was appointed chair of AAW's publications committee, which oversees publication of that journal.

Jean has a deep understanding of and interest in publishing. She closed her design-and-production-services business just before retiring and becoming an AAW board member. Before running for the BoD, though, Jean took on a four-year-long project of scanning all back issues of AW, making them available online. In doing so, she read most of the articles and came to the conclusion that the journal could be improved. Jean is a person of action, so it became her mission to find a new editor for AAW's journal and also make it bimonthly instead of quarterly.

Jean is a super strategist. Little did I know I had already wandered into her strategy "net." She had decided to find out if I might be interested in editing the journal again. I had edited AW the first time 1990-1993 and Jean liked what she read while scanning.

I don't recall our first phone call, but that initial conversation happened because of my volunteering for POP and Jean volunteering on the publications committee. We were destined to meet. If you want to meet interesting people, volunteer your skills for a committee or help with a project.

When Jean first asked if I might be interested in editing again, I emphatically said "No!" Now that I know Jean better, I realize my "no" was simply a starting point. Indeed, I became editor a second time because Jean changed the way AW was managed/edited, not just to entice me, but because that reorganization also aligned with her vision and strategy.

During my five-plus years as editor, Jean's support was crucial to my success. She had strengths I lacked (such as an eye for layout and design and long-term strategizing) and she supported my editorial vision and decisions. We didn't always agree, but because we had clear, open discussions, we could be supportive of each other's opinions and decisions. My communication skills improved and I expanded my connections within the woodturning field.

I have much to thank for Jean's vision, help, support, and friendship. The AAW has even more to thank Jean for: The journal improvement was her vision, I simply played a role. The journal is AAW's most significant membership benefit. If you want to expand your connections or pursue a vision or play a role in someone else's vision, step forward and volunteer. Jean did by initially scanning those journals, page after page!

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"What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

- Jane Goodall

2018 WIT Regional Retreat Gatlinburg, TN March 1-4, 2018 by Lou Kinsey

On Thursday, 31 women gathered for a long weekend of turning, learning, and sharing. The majority made it into the picture to the right, but as usual with a crowd this size, somebody unintentionally gets left out.

Sally Ault, Jean LeGwin, and Molly Winton led this merry band of turners, teaching new skills, reminding everyone about good practices, and answering questions with grace and thoughtfulness. Every skill level, from brand new turners to the been-there-done-that gals participated and received direct instruction, with a large amount of help from an old hand from the previous WIT Retreat, Kimberly Glover, and a new helper, Lynn Reece. These ladies took on a diversity of skill levels/abilities and had everyone making things. We watched light bulbs go on pretty regularly! And that is the goal, the only goal, in fact: to learn from others, and unexplained just so totally understood.



Our exit questionnaires (6 questions) were filled with suggestions for improvement, a wealth of great ideas, and resulted in a list of volunteers to help out next year. I just can't thank this group enough for sharing. The most difficult part of this type of event is really not knowing exactly who will show up. Each applicant answers a basic skill question on their registration form, but the depth and experience of the Intermediate and Advanced Group, and their willingness to fill the gaps for the less experienced turners, made a huge difference in the success of the retreat.

The word that keeps coming to mind again and again is WILLINGNESS. Willingness to share, to try, to be flexible in thought and in how to get things done. It didn't matter the task, just that it would be tried and a new skill learned. These are the reasons to have this event and other events with a similar goal; let's try something new, learn something new, teach something new, and maybe find a different way to accomplish a task you've done the same way forever.

As much as I'd like to end my statement right there with these pictures of the event, I just can't. Thank you, Kimberly Glover, in helping to plan this event and then filling in wherever for whatever was needed, broken thumb and all. Thanks to Chris Price and Jean Isenberg for taking on the prep and feeding of breakfast and lunch for this group. A shout out to Arrowmont Kitchen Director, Jenn and her staff!!! Our evening meals were wonderful, made all the better by not taking anyone away from a lathe to prepare. I will never be able to praise the Arrowmont staff as a whole for their warm welcome, and helpfulness every step along the way. Bill, Jim, Nick – You make things look easy. Heather Ashworth as wood studio technician took great care of us – THANKS Heather!!

AAW Board VP, Jeff Brockett, dropped by for lunch on Saturday to make sure everyone was aware that the Board supports these activities. He stayed around long enough to answer any questions participants might have had. Without all the work done by the volunteers throughout the WIT Committee, all the AAW Committees, and the Board itself, opportunities like this Retreat would not, and could not, exist. I would be remiss if I did not for just a moment point out the HUGE resources available to AAW members, from educational grants, to inspiring photos and articles in our Journal, to the quarterly Woodturning FUNDamentals chock full of instructions, to the wonderful video resources available on the website. All of these are part of your annual dues, and it is well worth the effort to take a look around the AAW website. Without exception, not one dime of AAW dues has gone into this retreat. These wonderful, giving, and talented women made this happen all by themselves through the fees paid for the retreat. When all was said and done, I was happy to write out the small refund checks to balance the books.

Thanks again to the Tennessee Association of Woodturners for expediting my grant request for assistance in bringing in Molly Winton to the retreat, and helping with travel expenses for our demonstrators.

Again, Sally Ault, Jean LeGwin, and Molly Winton are greatly thanked for saying "YES"! Your leadership and willingness to take on the unknowns in conducting our retreat will surely serve you well in your future endeavors if this event is any indicator.

By far, one of the greatest outcomes noted by all is the tremendous support fostered by this Retreat. We walked away with a huge amount of shared woodturning knowledge, networking, and resources which is exceeded only by our making/renewing friendships along the way.

Photos from the 2018 WIT regional retreat



“Why WIT?”

One of the questions that seems to be asked by both men and women alike, is “Why does AAW need WIT?” Our mission statement reads in part: “encouraging and assisting women in their pursuit of turning, to sharing ideas and processes and to further members’ skill and creativity, and to increasing the participation of women in the field of woodturning.” So what does that actually mean and what is our goal? We know that most of our chapters are predominantly men. In fact women comprise less than 10% of our AAW membership. A woman walking into her first meeting is often intimidated by the sheer number of men gathered for the meeting. Although she may want to learn about woodturning, she might feel so uncomfortable by being such a minority, that she may never come back. It is difficult to fulfill our mission if women turn around and never come back. Our goal is to get enough women to be active in the chapters that gender-based intimidation is a non-issue. The only way this can be done is to build a “critical mass” of women within the chapters. What is the “critical mass”? We don’t know, but it is probably just that number of women that is going to make the newcomer feel like she’s in the right place. How can we, an AAW committee, do this? We can’t. But the chapters can! By selecting one person, man or woman, as a WIT liaison, the chapter can help both the chapter and AAW.

The WIT liaison can reach out to the woman walking into the chapter for the first time, introduce herself/himself as the WIT liaison, tell her about what the chapter and AAW offer beginning turners, tell her something about the WIT home page, and perhaps even find someone to mentor her on her woodturning journey.

Women have a lot to offer any organization. When asked, the WIT committee can direct women to the chapters. But it is only through the chapter’s willingness to reach out that they will become a part of the chapter and AAW.

Women in Turning - Sharing Experiences

How I got into woodturning...

by Cheryl Lewis

A friend asked me if I could patiently explain what I'm doing as I create beautiful wood bowls, and how I got started a few months ago. I'm so glad he asked!

When my husband Jim and I moved to Chicago for a new job a couple of years ago, we were starting fresh, and needed new stuff. We'd sold our house in Atlanta and everything in it, since our kids had headed to college, and we were eager to move to Alabama to our tiny Lookout Mountain cabin, which was... well, tiny... and already furnished. So, our surprise foray a couple of years later into Chicago living meant our new high-rise apartment would be a fun opportunity to do something totally foreign to me... decorate with all new stuff!!

As part of that process, I bought a few wood-turned bowls I'd found on Etsy. I loved them! As time went on, I began to realize that I was slowing down from time-to-time and, well, caressing them – feeling their curves, admiring the wood grain, smiling at their beauty and heft. What can I say? I've always had a "bittuva" tree thing. Even when my kids were little, we'd take long, ambling, walks along the river behind our home, and pause to feel the texture of trees. They are silent giants, keeping the secrets of the world, and us alive at the same time.

Fast forward to California. After just a year and a half in the Midwest, we decided the cold wasn't going to work for us (!!!). I'd always wanted to live out west, so he accepted another great job offer in Sacramento... and along came my stack of beloved bowls. They're precious to me, so weren't entrusted to the mover. Instead, they rode across the country in the back seat of our car, with our border collie, Potter!

One afternoon, as I was wandering (basically lost) around our new community, I passed a pet supply store, so I swung back to grab a new collar and engraved tag. That's when I noticed a woodworking store next door. Well, I'm that girl who loves few things more than roaming the aisles of Home Depot and Lowes. I love gadgets and tools and wondering how they're used... true story! I prefer that over a clothing store any day. (Please don't take away my girl card!)

So, I made a beeline into the Rockler store, and stumbled across their lathe display. Aha! I'd always wondered what one looked like and how it worked! How on earth did my bowls come from that? I wanted to know and began asking questions. During that conversation, a radical thought formed... I really wanted to make my own bowls! WHAT?? The closest I'd ever come to owning a tool was a hammer, because it had a royal blue handle grip and I thought it was cute! The store had classes, but the soonest one for beginners like me wouldn't start for several months. Did I mention I'm sometimes impatient? I begged the hapless salesman to give me the name of someone who could teach me sooner.

Finally, the poor guy shooed me out the door, saying there's a local club for woodturners, and I could check into that. Well, I went out to my car and sat in the parking lot, Googling. Lo and behold, the club's monthly meeting was scheduled that very night! Hosanna! I called Jim and, to his astonishment, said I'd be attending. (Actually, I'm pretty sure that very little I choose to do surprises him, anymore. Ha!)

I joined the club that night (crazy, right?) and was invited the next day to one of the members' homes to try out a lathe. (Well maybe I invited myself...) It was awesome! I came home with an ink pen and small walnut bowl full of worm holes, and I couldn't have been prouder! I'd made them... with 99 percent help, but still... I'd made them!! My husband was mortified when I insisted on carrying my bowl into our cell provider appointment... "Um, Cheryl, why are you bringing that into Verizon?" The answer was simple, since I was about to pop with pride and excitement: "Because I MADE A BOWL!" I showed it off to anyone I could corner.

When I realized the club had a mentoring program, and a number of retirees would welcome me in their garages as I learned, I was thrilled! I told each generous, patient teacher that I didn't want to be a pest, but I did want to dive right in! I also jumped in when the club said it needed Friday volunteers at a local school to guide troubled students who wanted to learn. Even if I didn't know how to teach woodturning yet (understatement of the year), I was assured by the other instructors that it would be a good opportunity for me to contribute and learn alongside the students. As it turns out, the students have been as thrilled to wear the teacher shoes as I am excited to learn!

A couple of weeks later, our new neighbors threw a dinner party to introduce us to people with whom they felt we'd feel a connection. It felt a bit "show and tell-ish," but I brought my new creations along to share. Suddenly a woman came rushing over from the kitchen, exclaiming, "My dad is a woodturner and he'd love to teach you!!" I was delighted and definitely planned to call him, but the next morning, before my husband and I were even out of bed, the phone rang, and it was her sweet 86-year-old father, inviting me over to their home.

That was the true beginning of my education. For the next six weeks, few days passed when I didn't darken their door for, oh,

- How I got into woodturning, con't

about seven hours a day! It was a hard and fast education. Andy and Mary Johnson also became like family to me! I devoured every instructional video I could find on the Internet, joined several Facebook pages, and found an invaluable resource in the American Association of Woodturners (AAW) magazines and website.

So “what am I doing?”

In the four months that have passed since I joined the national and local club (plus two more), began attending meetings and receiving instruction from several more generous mentors, I've equipped a shop, and have begun to turn bowls on my own Jet midi-lathe. Some turners are interested in branching out, but, thus far, I only want to turn bowls. Why? Who doesn't like to receive a handmade wooden bowl? They're awesome, visually compelling, tactile, and practical. Successfully creating one after another out of discarded timber is one of the most satisfying, astonishing things I've ever done!

Oh, trust me, anyone well-versed in the woodturning community who sees them recognizes the tool marks, inconsistent walls, and inadequate sanding. I have so much to practice and learn—but I've come so very far!!

The list of items needed after a lathe is acquired is not a short one—there are chisels and grinding wheels and sharpening jigs and sandpaper and oils and glues and faceshields and gloves and bandsaws and drill bits and lots of other things necessary before a single bowl can be achieved. I guess when my only Christmas wish was for a chainsaw so I could gather found timber, my family finally began to believe that this is the real deal. Now I have my eye on bigger lathes, because I'm impatient to make bigger bowls. You know already what happens when I get impatient! (**See additional photos on page 10.**)



Cheryl is an amateur woodturner in Auburn, California. A career journalist and avid explorer/adventurer, she now happily turns bowls in her haybarn shop as the sheep and goats in her pasture look on. She is impatiently waiting to become patient. She can be reached at cherylrlewis@aol.com.

Cape Cod Woodturners WIT by Robin McIntyre

Nine turners (2 absent in the photo) met at Carol Rader's shop on January 27, 2018, for an afternoon of exploring new thoughts, sharing tool use and Carol's turning library, visiting new project ideas, getting the turning vibes re-sparked, experiencing new friendships, and sharing a terrific lunch! Thanks to Carol for hosting our group. This was our third group meeting. More fun and learning to follow....



Turners in the photo L to R: Michelle Cronin, Joan Jeffs, Sandy Arnone, Kathy Regan, Jackie Kelly, Sue Beardsley, Carol Rader. **Missing in the photo:** Jan Casiello, Robin McIntyre



*“Don't live life in the past lane.”
- Samantha Ettus*

What is a WIT Event?

There are several types of WIT events:

- Information gatherings intended to introduce non-turners to woodturning
- Demonstrations to new and experienced turners
- Hands-on workshops for new and experienced turners
- Exhibitions

The purpose of all WIT events is to educate women about woodturning, help them improve woodturning skills, or exhibit their work. Events are also intended to bring new members into AAW and the local chapters. Events cannot be conducted for profit, nor should any individual personally profit from an event. Event demonstrators can be paid as long as the organizers are not also paid demonstrators.

To be recognized by the AAW-WIT committee as a WIT event, the event organizer needs to submit a registration application to the WIT committee. Applications must be approved by the committee for the event to be recognized as a WIT event.

Because of liability issues, hands-on events have requirements beyond those of other types of events. If these events are sponsored by a local chapter, it can be a win-win. It will help the chapter outreach in its search for new members and the event will be covered by the club's liability insurance. If events are held at a private residence or shop, the owner is required to have appropriate liability insurance.

Although AAW membership is not a requirement for any event attendees, we ask the organizers to promote AAW and AAW membership. For hands-on events, consider charging non-AAW members an additional \$20 and using the additional funds to purchase their temporary 3-month membership. Attendees will leave the event not only with what they've learned at the event, but access to many of the AAW new-turner resources available only to members.

At the end of the event, the organizer is asked to submit the following attendee information to the WIT committee.

- Name
- Email/phone
- AAW Member status
- Chapter (if any)

Pictures and articles about the event are welcome additions to the WIT newsletter.

WIT events may qualify for WIT grants. See <http://www.woodturner.org/?page=WITGRANTS>



An example of a WIT event is the regional retreat, described by Lou Kinsey on pages 2-3.

These photos show Sally Ault, demonstrating how to use a chatter tool to decorate a turned spin top.

Photos by Anne Ogg

Note: AAW recommends that gloves not be worn while turning.

Opportunities for Women in Turning

Classes, Workshops, Exhibits, Demonstrations, and Grants

Regional & Club Events

April 27–29, 2018. SWAT Region WIT Retreat at Gulf Coast Woodturners Association - Cypress, TX. Contact: Janice Levi: jlevi@rightturnonly.net

May 5–July 21, 2018. Connie Mississippi: Circle of Time. The Center for Art in Wood, 141 N 3rd St, Philadelphia, PA. <https://centerforartinwood.org/event/connie-mississippi-circle-time/>

May 12, 2018. Ninth New England Woodturning Symposium, Pinkerton Academy, Derry, NH. Donna Zils Banfield and Janet Collins will be demonstrating. <https://www.gnhw.org>

June 3–8, 2018. Relief: Add Interest and Life to Your Work. Appalachian Center for Craft, Smithville, TN: Dixie Biggs. <https://www.tntech.edu/craftcenter/workshops/summer-workshops/wood-workshops>

June 14–17, 2018. AAW Symposium, Portland, OR. WIT Special Interest Night on Thursday; women who are demonstrating include: Donna Zils Banfield, Kailee Bosch, Cindy Drozda, Karen Freitas, Bonnie Klein, Kristin LeVier, and Lauren Zenreich <http://www.woodturner.org/?page=2018Portland>



Classes by Janice Levi:

April 12–14, 2018. Capital Area Woodturners, Alexandria, VA (barrel purse demo, barrel purse class, jewelry/lidded box class).

April 12, 2018. Montgomery County Woodturners, Rockville, MD (lidded box with finial demo).

April 17, 18, 2018. Mid-Maryland Woodturners, Frederick, MD (ornament with finial demo, lidded box finial class).

April 19, 20, 2018. Catocin Area Turners, Leesburg, VA (lidded box with finial demo, ornament with finial/lidded box with finial class).

April 21, 2018. Apple Valley Woodturners, Winchester, VA (lidded box with finial demo, lidded box with finial class).

June 17–23, 2018. Arrowmont, Gatlinburg, TN (barrel purse, jewelry, pyrography).

WIT Grant Opportunities

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. For that purpose, WIT has established grant opportunities to help defray the costs to individuals, groups, schools, and local AAW chapters in sponsoring events that support AAW's WIT Committee goals. Grant applications will be evaluated and funds distributed quarterly. For more information and the online application, please see <http://www.woodturner.org/?page=WITGRANTS>.

The next application date deadline is April 30, 2018.

WIT AAW Membership Grants

To encourage women to join AAW, the WIT Committee offers a limited number of WIT sponsored half-price AAW memberships to women for a one-year, full "General" AAW membership.

Eligibility

To be eligible, a grant recipient must be a woman who has never previously been a member of AAW.

Process

Only the chapter AAW WIT Liaison, chapter president, or vice-president may request the grant.

After we've received the application, the recipient will be sent a promotional code with instructions on how to use the code in applying for an AAW membership. If you have questions, please email wit@woodturner.org.

Limitations

WIT membership grants will cover 50% of the cost for the new one-year AAW membership. The recipient is responsible for payment of the remaining 50% of the annual membership fee.

Grants are currently limited to no more than two women, per chapter, per quarter.

Quarters end January 31, April 30, July 31, and October 31. Based on the number of requests, this limitation may change.

We hope that this offer will be an incentive for new women woodturners to join your chapter.

*"Don't look at your feet to see if you are doing it right. Just dance."
- Anne Lamott*

2018 Exhibits Featuring Women in Turning



Turnabout: Women at the Lathe

The **Turnabout- Women at the Lathe** Exhibition just finished up its run at the Appalachian Center for Craft in Smithville, TN. This was the first of three different venues which will host the exhibit. The next will be the AAW Gallery of Wood Art in Saint Paul, MN, June 3 – July 29. From there it will travel to Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, TN, where it will be on display August 10 – October 10, 2018.

Turnabout-Women at the Lathe is the first exhibition organized by the Women in Turning (WIT) committee of the American Association of Woodturners (AAW). Reflecting our membership, we created a blended invitational and juried show that celebrates both known and unknown voices in our field. The twenty-seven sculptural pieces in the exhibition were created by women artists from the United States, England, Wales, Canada, and Taiwan, ranging in age from their early twenties to their 80's.

In the image, by columns, left to right: Janice Levi, Martha Collins, Jeanne Douphrate, Marilyn Campbell. Col. 2: Andi Wolfe, Ena Dubnoff, Dixie Biggs, Kailee Bosch, Louise Hibbert, Sally Burnett. Col. 3: Liz Kent, Helga Winter, Hayley Smith/Louise Hibbert, Barbara Dill, Kimberly Winkle, Tania Radda, Kristen LeVier. Col. 4: Janine Wang, Katie Adams, Cindy Pei-Si Young, Diana Friend, Donna Zils Banfield. Col. 5: Melissa Engler, Jennifer Shirley, Sharon Doughtie, Betty Scarpino, Grace Parlman. Congratulations!

New Horizons

During the summer of 2018 the Allied Arts Association and the Mid-Columbia Woodturners are collaborating to present a catalogued presentation of new work by significant woodturning artists. The exhibit will be May 22 – July 1 at the Gallery at the Park, 89 Lee Blvd, Richland, WA. Following this venue the exhibition will go to Saint Paul, MN, for August and September at the Landmark Center.

The show, entitled “New Horizons,” will contain new works that depart from the artist’s usual style.

New Horizons is an unusual exhibit because the organizers wanted to provide an opportunity for artists to explore new work. To do this, the artists were given two years from the time of the initial invitation to when the pieces were to be delivered to the exhibit, and were requested to make something that was not what they were known for in terms of their existing body of work. Often, one downside to being a successful artist is the fact that there is often little opportunity to change existing successful work, or to branch out in new directions. Buyers often expect to purchase work that looks like the work others have bought in the past. Innovation seems to be discouraged. The organizers felt it was time for an exhibition where artists can present new work. It will be exciting to see what new ideas and concepts will emerge.

Each artist provided two images of their “iconic” art work; these images will be included with their new work at the gallery show and in the show catalog. Participants are by invitation only. Women invited into the exhibit include: Dixie Biggs, Marilyn Campbell, Cindy Drozda, Kristin LeVier, Melissa Engler, Merryll Saylan, Betty Scarpino, Molly Winton, and Andi Wolfe.

You can read about the planning of the exhibit and related activities here: <http://newhorizonswoodart.org/index.php/about/history>

Check out this video describing the wall installation, *The Time Travelers*, by Andi Wolfe (see photo below). This installation is 9 feet wide by 4 feet tall, and contains 73 carved turnings. <https://youtu.be/WMY3pDOIoEk>



Please join us for opening night: April 7th!

WOMEN IN WOOD

Northwind Arts Center in Port Townsend, Washington



Night Freight: Quirky Cargo by Betty Scarpino

Helga Winter, a Port Townsend woodturner and artist, is curating *WOMEN IN WOOD* at Northwind Arts Center April 5 through 30. The show profiles the work of fourteen professional women woodworkers from around the country. Co-curator Betty Scarpino, from Indianapolis, Indiana, is internationally recognized as one of the masters in her field. She states that “artists create glorious objects when they incorporate their life experiences.” The displayed work is as diverse as the women’s life experiences and professional backgrounds: lawyers, educators, nurses, biologists, agriculturalists, industrial arts teachers became enamored with wood and changed their original careers.

Many of the exhibiting artists are inspired by the landscapes, nature and the history of the world around them. You will delight in a range of sculpture, furniture-like objects, multi-axis turnings, bent-and-carved wood, jewelry, pyrography, paint and more. Wood is the focus of this exhibit, domestic as well as exotic.

Prints and repurposed book art, wood derivatives, demonstrate the ever- expanding repertoire of the artists’ interests and skills.

The show opens during Gallery Walk Saturday, April 7 at 5:30pm.

The artists will talk about their work Sunday, April 8 at 1:00pm.

Five of the artists will be present.

The show will move to the American Art Company in Tacoma in May.

Sally Ault
Donna Zils Banfield
Dixie Biggs
Martha Collins
Barbara Dill
Cindy Drozda
Katie Hudnall

Kristin LeVier
Tania Radda
Merryll Saylan
Betty Scarpino
Helga Winter
Molly Winton
Andi Wolfe

Photos from "How I got into turning" article on pages 4 – 5.



Top: A collection of bowls made by Cheryl Lewis.

Bottom: Cheryl Lewis, in her shop, and holding one of her turned bowls.



Women in Turning Gallery - Spin Tops



Jean LeGwin



Women in Turning Gallery - Spin Tops

Sally Ault



Video Resources & Miscellaneous Links

If you've ever wanted more information about turning techniques, this section of the newsletter is where you will find links to instructional or inspirational videos. Just click on the highlighted link to open the video.

[Turning Tops on a Lathe - by Ernie Conover](#)

[Bowl Sanding and Walnut Oil](#)

[Grain Direction, Turning a Bowl](#)

[Turning a Goblet](#)

[Grain Direction, Spindles](#)

[Making a Key Holder](#)

[Grain Direction, Curly and Burl Wood](#)

[Pyrography for Woodturners](#)

From the Editor:

Information needed for the newsletter! The WIT newsletter needs calendar items to help women turners know about upcoming opportunities and events. If you have information about exhibit opportunities, club demos, hands-on gatherings in the works, gallery shows, or any topic that is relevant to WIT, please send the information to me by email for inclusion in the newsletter. Use the subject line, "WIT June Newsletter information." I'm particularly interested in stories about events involving women in turning, especially regional gatherings of turners for workshops or hands-on experiences. If you enjoyed reading the "Sharing Experiences" section of the newsletter, please contribute your own stories for inspiring other women in turning. I would like to hear from the WIT Chapter Liaisons - tell us what is happening in your area. Reviews and reports about women who demonstrate at club, regional, national, and international events are also welcomed. These kinds of reports are often put out on online forums - mostly about male demonstrators. Let's spread the word about women demonstrators as well. You don't have to be an experienced writer - I am happy to edit contributions for readability.

New feature for the newsletter: I've added a new section to the newsletter to take advantage of the online distribution we use for every issue. Namely, a section with links to tutorial videos. Where possible, I will feature videos by women turners. If you know of good tutorials available online, please send me the information. Use the subject line, "WIT video tutorial." Also, be sure to check out the AAW Video Source Website at <http://aawvideosource.org/php/index.html>. The videos listed here are vetted by the AAW, which helps to ensure quality of instruction.

This issue's gallery feature is on spin tops. This is related to the WIT EOG auction donation, "Topsy Turvy" project, which will be available at the 2018 AAW Symposium in Portland, OR. There will be an online auction link for anyone who would like to bid on the project, but who is not able to attend the symposium.

The American Association of Woodturners 32nd Annual International Symposium will be held in Portland, OR, June 14-17, 2018. For more information see: <http://www.woodturner.org/page/2018Portland>

Thank you! to all the Women in Turning who contributed articles or photos for this newsletter: Sally Ault, Dixie Biggs, Lou Kinsey, Jean LeGwin, Cheryl Lewis, Anne Ogg, Betty Scarpino, Helga Winter, and Molly Winton. The Women in Turning Committee has also contributed to content of this newsletter, working diligently behind the scenes.

"I am always busy, which is perhaps the chief reason why I am always well."

- Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Correspondence

(This letter is in response to the 2018 WIT Regional Retreat from pages 2–3.)

Report on Spouse Experience at WIT Retreat 3/1 - 3/4, 2018 in Gatlinburg, TN

I am David Fuller, husband and main driver for Sandy Fuller, Woodturner. Sandy attended a WIT Retreat in early March of 2018 in Gatlinburg, TN, at Arrowmont School of Crafts. She was excited to go for the first time, and I was equally excited to take her there in our MotorCoach, with our doggies. We live in The Villages, FL, so it was a two-day drive for us to Tennessee. We were delayed somewhat on arrival day, but Sandy did make it in time to go meet the rest of the women for dinner that night. After that, my Sandy spent the next three long days turning wood, and learning new skills about how to turn wood products. She was beaming at her pleasure of doing so, and interacting with the leaders and other women, and I was just thrilled for her to have this chance and experience to do so. Sandy has already registered for the next WIT event at Arrowmont this coming Sept 5-7, and, once again, I am pleased to take her there in our MotorCoach.

My very own experience as her husband was almost as nice as hers. Turns out Sandy had arranged the meal packet for me as well. Sweet! We began each day arising in time to travel the 11 miles from our campground parking site to be at breakfast at 7 a.m. I was the only male in the room all three days, and I did so enjoy meeting and talking with some of the ladies there. The food was delicious and filling as well. I will look forward to that part when we go back in September, and maybe spend more time talking and getting to meet some of the ladies that will be there. I have already arranged our parking site, and, this time, it is only 7 miles from the campus. Gatlinburg and nearby Pigeon Forge are entertainment destinations. There is more than enough to keep me, or anyone, entertained during the day while Sandy is in "class." For me, it is just fun to explore the surrounding area, just to see what is there. More than I could handle, for sure. Gotta get back in time for dinner and pick her up at 5 p.m.

The WIT experience was a delight for both of us. We understand it will become a regular event in early March, and again in early September of each year. If so, we plan to be at both those events yearly!!!! Nuff said ... Come and join us. I could organize a husbands club for our wives at WIT.

Keep on turning !!!! YEA to WIT ! David Fuller



The **WIT EXCHANGE** will be held September 5 – 7, 2018, at Arrowmont Arts and Crafts School in Gatlinburg, TN. Come enjoy a unique experience of exchanging ideas, techniques, and creative processes. Each day will be a new beginning of turning, carving, embellishing, and sharing.

The concept of the **WIT EXCHANGE** is based on "process rather than product." We invite ALL skill levels.

Cost

- **AAW Members:** The cost is \$300 for AAW members, which includes event registration and meals.

- **Non-AAW Members:** The cost is \$360 for non-AAW members, which includes \$60 one-year AAW membership, event registration, and meals. (We have a limited number of grants available for AAW membership)

Rooms

Room/accommodations can be made through Arrowmont (865-436-5860, or <https://www.arrowmont.org/contact/>) - or, on your own, at local hotels.

Registration for event and rooms opened March 7th.

If you are not an AAW member, WIT is offering incentive memberships through your AAW WIT chapter liaison, or your AAW chapter president.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

There will be no refunds except in the case of a medical/family emergency, and no refunds will be issued two weeks prior to the event. Although we cannot offer a refund, you may transfer your registration to another person if you must cancel your registration.

See <http://www.woodturner.org/default.asp?page=WITExchange> for additional information.

Endnotes:

Encourage WIT. 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.

Did you know? There are many benefits of AAW membership, including a world-class journal, publications on techniques, videos, a directory of learning opportunities, and other online tools. Check out all the opportunities for members at <http://www.woodturner.org/?page=MemberBenefits>. If you've not had an opportunity to explore the AAW website, take a few minutes to look around at: <http://www.woodturner.org>. The Women in Turning website is hosted by the AAW site at <http://www.woodturner.org/?page=WIT>. You'll find all our newsletters, committee meeting minutes, information about WIT outreach grants, and many other goodies there.

Women in Turning Committee Contact Information:

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"I firmly believe you never should spend your time being the former anything."

- Condoleezza Rice

AAW

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS