

American Association of Woodturners
WIT Committee Telephone Conference
Thursday March 9, 4 P.M. PST

Participants: Kathleen Duncan (chair), Linda Ferber, Jean LeGwin, Andi Wolfe. Also joining: Ana Lappegard. Absent: Dixie Biggs due to travel, Elizabeth Amigo unavailable until after their move.

Arrowmont WIT Symposium: Ana agreed to be the symposium coordinator and she joined us for this meeting. She has been in contact with Nick DeFord at Arrowmont. Prior to the meeting, she sent 1) agenda of items that need to be discussed, 2) possible rotation schedule, and 3) a map of Arrowmont.

One of the things we need to consider in marketing a WIT symposium, is: what is it that makes us different? What are we offering? Why are we special. It is thought that many will want to come simply because this is a WIT event. The hands-on aspect is what will make us different from other symposia. Linda proposed that we also have session on learning to be a demonstrator.

With the fires as Arrowmont, there is currently housing for 90 persons. It is possible that one of the dorms may be rebuilt by 9/2018 in which case, there would be housing for 120. There are hotels within walking distant. However, it is Labor Day weekend (the end of tourist season). If there is an in town college football game, that will impact the number of rooms available. Ana will check with the hotels about the cost and possibility of reserving a block of rooms. She will also find out about cancellation policies. Most hotels have a policy that if a block of rooms is not filled, the group reserving the rooms may need to pay for the unused rooms.

Jean put us on task by stating that the budget has got to be our starting point. Without a budget and cost, we can't assess how big this will be, how many demonstrators/facilitators we'll need, the number or type of rotations we can have, nor poll people to see how many *would* attend.

Ana is going to contact the segmented turners and get information on the symposium they recently had at Arrowmont. She will also have another conversation with Bill May to get specific information on the cost of food, dorm rooms, and meeting/workshop rooms. Kathleen will forward her the cost sheet she put together in December.

It is possible to move lathes around so we could have several different lathe sessions going on concurrently. We should have sessions available for various skill levels. Possibly, we should consider borrowing lathes from local clubs. Instructors will probably need assistants familiar with how they do things.

Do we want a small vendor show? Can we ask for the donation of a non-220 lathe for a raffle or drawing? Kathleen will talk with AAW about possible conflicts by talking with vendors with whom AAW has a relationship and vendors with whom AAW does not have a relationship. There is also a suggestion to have critique sessions.

Kathleen will get a definitive answer on whether or not committee members can be demonstrators for the symposium.

Once we get a better understanding of what the cost are going to be and can work on a budget, we will schedule another meeting to continue the discussion. At that time, we will look at the breakeven point to determine if it is feasible to have the type of symposium envisioned.

Other Agenda Item: The other planner agenda items were not covered due to the long discussion regarding the Arrowmont symposium. Linda and Andi needed to drop off because of other commitments.

The meeting concluded at about 5:00 (Pacific).

Kathleen Duncan
WIT Committee Chair