

American Association of Woodturners  
WIT Committee Telephone Conference  
Thursday December 7, 4 P.M. PST

The meeting convened at 4pm PDT. Participants by phone: Elizabeth Amigo, Dixie Biggs, Kathleen Duncan, Linda Ferber, Jean LeGwin, Andi Wolfe. Absent Sally Ault due to illness

**Special Announcement:** Congratulations, Jean! I'm pleased to announce that Jean LeGwin has been awarded the 2018 AAW Honorary Life Time Member Award by the Board of Directors at our November meeting!

**WIT Budget Update and AAW BOD Recap:** At the November AAW Board of Directors meeting, Kathleen presented the WIT budget request. There was considerable discussion especially regarding the WIT grants. The BOD proposed one use of the grants would be to fund AAW memberships for women. These membership grants will need to be requested by the chapters. This is right in line with what the WIT committee proposed last month. One board member was concerned whether or not this could be done legally. The consensus was that with less than 10% of our membership women, this would not be a problem. Going through the chapters benefits both the chapters and women. For hands-on events requesting WIT funding, attendees will need to be AAW members. With the introduction of the \$20 3-month temporary membership and chapters being able to request funds for membership, this shouldn't be a problem. After a long discussion by the board, a motion was made and seconded to accept the WIT budget proposal. The motion passed by the BOD. It should be noted that the entire budget will be voted on at the December board meeting.

**WIT Grants:** We had further discussion on working with chapters to make membership available to women and requiring participants at WIT events to be AAW members. Andi expressed a concern that WIT is the only program with a mandate to bring in more AAW members. This does not seem to be required of the Youth program, TWB, or POP. POP members are already AAW members, TWB does not have a similar mandate. Jean made the observation that at the NC symposium there were many more women in attendance this year than in the past. She commented that it needs a critical mass for things to take off. She's seen it in the NC symposium and that is what we are looking for in the chapters.

There was further discussion on setting up a WIT chapter liaison program. Even though we don't have anything set up, we can send an email to chapters asking if they can ask their chapters for anyone who would be willing to be the WIT contact person. This can be either male or female. Kathleen will draft an email to send to chapters telling them about the grant program. It should be noted this communication will be included with normal AAW chapter bulletin.

**WIT Events:** In the discussion about the WIT Event document, Linda pointed out that AAW membership is not a requirement for chapter insurance to cover hands-on events. Dixie added that we need to clarify that demonstrators can be paid by the events. We clarified the reason for having chapters sponsor events. There were no corrections to the event registration form. Kathleen will develop an Access database to track event data and event reports.

Scarlette Rouse and Peggy Schmid are both planning events. We need to get the documents to them prior to the WIT newsletter.

**WIT Brochure:** Dixie will see if she can find the last brochure and pass it to Andi.

**EXCHANGE:** Elizabeth will rework the EXCHANGE “save the date” blurb to put in the newsletter. The current version is a little clunky. Dixie needs a count of how many rooms need to be reserved for the advance team. We plan to open registration on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Linda will send Dixie a sample of the latest WIT shirts to check for heaviness and shape retention.

**WIT FB page:** Tib has been added as an administrator on the public page. Currently Tib, Andi, and Linda are page administrators. We need more activity on that page

**Exhibition:** Congratulations to Dixie, Sharon, and Tib for curating “Turnabout: Women at the Lathe.” There was discussion regarding an on-demand catalog for the exhibit

**Other:** Andi needs pictures for the newsletter. This should be Christmas ornaments and small project items.

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The meeting was concluded at about 5:15 PST.

Kathleen Duncan  
WIT Committee Chair

Next meeting: January 4, 2017.