

American Association of Woodturners
WIT Committee Telephone Conference
Thursday, March 5th , 5 P.M. PDT

The video meeting convened at 5:05 pm PDT. Participants were Marie Anderson, Dixie Biggs, Kathleen Duncan, Linda Ferber, and Lynne Yamaguchi. Absent: Jean LeGwin, Andi Wolf, Janet Collins

WIT EXCHANGE: We briefly discussed the webpage registration form. Marie agreed to write several optional questions that will be added to the form.

We decided to include the WIT logo in the square space at the top left of the form and the rectangular EXCHANGE logo to the right in the body of the form.

We agreed to officially open registration on Sunday and Linda expects to have the form ready and open as early as Friday evening/Saturday morning. We briefly discussed the cutoff date would be in August, but I didn't write down a date. The cancellation policy is pending Kathleen's discussion with the other board members. WIT will follow their lead on how to handle the potential impact of Covid-19. Based on last year's early registration numbers, if we need to do refunds, we do not anticipate this would be a large number.

Dixie said the Arrowmont contract states we do not have to put down the deposit until sometime in April so we all agreed to hold off on sending the deposit until we have further discussions with Jim about their policy regarding Covid-19 issues.

We are also holding off on purchasing any other art supplies until we see what effect (if any) the virus may have on our event.

Marie has attempted to contact David Keithly regarding the bat blanks (no answer yet). She will get enough for 15 blanks per day, most likely the 28" size due to his comments that these are more likely to have clear, straight grain. Per Dixie, we want 10" blanks and a mixture of Maple and Ash is good as long as we get enough to have all 15 (each day) in one or the other. Marie will cut the blanks to length, store and transport to the EXCHANGE. We will sell any leftovers to help offset the wood budget.

We reviewed the comments from Elizabeth Ross regarding TSS and the EXCHANGE being the same weekend. It is unfortunate that Arrowmont had the previous commitment that caused the change in our dates. It was thought that the two events are different type of events (symposium vs. hands on event). We also noted that our event is limited to 45 women from the entire AAW. We concurred that Covid-19 will most likely have more influence on both events' registrations.

Teacher's Workshop: Kathleen tabled the discussion on the Teacher's Workshop without input from Jean, Janet or Andi.

Other (liaisons): We briefly discussed the newsletter - suggest we use Robin's email response regarding WIT activities (in whole or in part) for the newsletter.

Other suggestions for newsletter fodder:

- Talk to Lou Kinsey to get information about the retreat she is holding at Arrowmont.
- Follow up on the "Do-Nut Give Up" project that Chris Price organized. Events / Calendar
- Also add a blurb about the men who are WIT liaisons - something like:

Did you know that not all WIT liaisons are women? In fact, we have several male liaisons. These men are dedicated to strengthening their clubs' membership by encouraging women to join in the fun of woodturning. We are thankful to all the WIT liaisons, male and female. Please feel free to contact any of the WIT committee members with questions, challenges, or comments. We are here to help!

Linda reported that we are up to 61 liaisons. We briefly discussed how to help the liaisons, not all are as active as Robin! It seems that the current liaisons are looking for specific instructions on what to do. It was noted that the liaison letters have been offering suggestions and we should continue this in the next letter. Marie will draft another letter. Marie asked if we could get a list of the liaisons to help us understand our geographical coverage. Linda said yes and she will forward to the committee. The list should give us a good idea what areas we need to recruit liaisons. For example, starting in areas where there are multiple clubs maybe make an outreach phone call to encourage WIT in that area. (Maybe we could spotlight one or two WIT liaisons in the newsletter each issue??)

Old Business: Follow up report on last month's comments regarding the possibility of an organ donor registry drive - Gift of Hope is a regional organization. They suggested we would be better off partnering with a hospital that is local to the symposium to get support for this type of event. This is something that will take much more effort than we have time for so Marie withdrew the suggestion.! Also, update/correction from last month: both Clay Foster and John Jordan have received liver transplants as of before the last WIT meeting. John has posted on IG that he is recovering well. Dixie noted that she saw a picture of Jennifer and Clay up and out of the house so both Clay and John are recovering at this time.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 2nd, 2020 at 4pm PST.

Marie Anderson
WIT Committee Member