

American Association of Woodturners
WIT Committee Video Conference
Thursday March 4th

The video meeting convened at about 4 pm PDT. Participants were Dixie Biggs, Linda Britt, Janet Collins, Kathleen Duncan, Linda Ferber, Jean LeGwin, Tib Shaw, and Andi Wolfe. Marie Anderson was absent.

WIT Presents: *WIT Presents* –Andi Wolfe will be our next presenter on March 13th at 4 pm Eastern. Tib stated that registrations are on target. Tib and Andi will have the slideshow. Tib will need assign a co-host as a backup if there is an internet failure. Marie was absent, so we are unsure to the April presentation. Kathleen will talk to Marie when she returns.

The potential after project topic will be the next large WIT event.

Second Virtual EXCHANGE: Registration for the second Virtual EXCHANGE has opened, and the announcement sent to AAW women. Anecdotally, several have greeted this with enthusiasm. LindaF stated that she and Marie have been working on a SOP and have sent dates and topics for Zoom meetings. One thing she discussed was adding a “zinger” to the project mid-way through. There was a discussion and she agreed that we would not include the zinger.

WIT Virtual Mini Symposium: Kathleen expressed her concerns about moving forward with a WIT virtual mini symposium. These included the fact that AAW is potentially doing two virtual symposia in 2021 (summer and fall/winter) as are many other entities. People may be burned out by the sheer number of events online. As more and more of the population is vaccinated and the country opens up, people may prefer to get away from their homes and computers. The scope of what we planned would require additional womanpower in the way of committee and team members.

WIT has a history of been innovative. Our ideas have been taken up and implemented by others. Rather than doing yet-another symposium, WIT needs to look at some new ideas. What follows are the discussion the committee had.

- Gallery show with images registered prior to event
- “Makers Congress” with discussions
 - 1-on-1 networking
 - Setup discussion rooms
 - Critique
 - Solutions, answers to pre-submitted questions and images
 - No online Q&A
 - Quick individual problem consults with potential for paid consult (~\$50)
 - Work in Progress group critique

- Have a session to critique photography submitted.
- Have a session for creative photography.
- Tips and tricks videos
- Safety tips
- What tools are used for what purpose
- Limit to women only
- Limit # of discussion categories with panels to discuss and answer questions.

It was suggested that we use the upcoming after party to discuss these ideas. It was also discussed that we use an after party as a trial run. Perhaps make this a regularly scheduled occurrence.

Other: Andi is working on the next newsletter.

The meeting adjourned promptly at 5:00 pm Pacific when one of the committee members inadvertently pushed the wrong button.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday April 1st at 4 pm Pacific.

Kathleen Duncan
WIT Committee Chair