

# Windy City Woodturners

Chapter of the American Association of Woodturners

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# January Meeting

**Wednesday, January 17, 2024**

*St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 1313 N. Mill Street,  
Naperville, IL 60453.*

*Doors open by 6:15 - 6:30 pm, so swing by early to  
help set-up. Hope to see you all!*

## \*CAUTION\*

The music students regularly cross the  
driveway near the church building in the  
parking lot.

**EVERYONE PLEASE OBEY THE STOP  
SIGN (!) NEAR THE BUILDING AS YOU  
ENTER**

Let's keep everyone safe!

The January Meeting will feature Don Johnston  
who will be demonstrating how he makes  
wooden platters.

Details next page.....Not to be missed!



**WCWT ENTRANCE - LOWER-LEVEL**

**PARKING IS IN THE BACK  
LOWER-LEVEL PARKING LOT**

**1313 N Mill St, Naperville, IL 60563**

# January Mtg. Presentation

## Don Johnston

You'll see a demonstration at the January 17, 2024 meeting of the Windy City Woodturners on turning Plates and Platters. Don Johnston will cover the What's and How's on the topic.

This form first appealed to Don several years ago because it is easier to find reliable figure in boards than in the forest. The Plate is a form that takes advantage of figured boards.

You will see a variety of tools Don uses, including his patented-applied-for DSR.



Photos of Don with examples of his beautiful plates.

\*Photos provided by Phil Moy, Chicago Woodturners from a demo by Don in 2023

**January 2024**

Presidents Message

Let me start out by saying thank you to Marie. I know Marie took the job to heart and worked hard to keep us going through the many stages of Covid, the transition to a new facility, and the ever-changing needs and wants of our group. I look forward to working with her and the board as we look towards 2024 and beyond. My biggest thank you is not limited to just Marie – it is to everyone who started this club, ran it through the years, encouraged new members and those that always made me feel welcome at every meeting and event I attended. Sincerely – thank you to everyone. I remember Dave Burk telling me about this club and membership was open – back at the Lisle Park District. I got to the first meeting I attended at 6 – just waiting for the doors to open and sign up. I sat in the corner, kept my mouth shut, and just enjoyed the entire time. I sincerely have been hooked since. Thank you all of you who greeted me at the door over the years, encouraged all of us to turn, and just enjoyed the conversations we have had. (cont.)

# President's Message

Mark Dreyer



# Message From Our President (cont.)

As I look forward to the new year for the club, I want to make one thing clear – I want everyone to know and understand that I work for you and the club. If you know my background – I simply love woodturning. I enjoy getting down in my shop and turning something new. Be it a bowl or a platter or a pen – I enjoy the act of planning what I want to make, “chucking” it up, starting the lathe, and creating something from a block. Unfortunately, sometimes I think the block looked better before I turned it. Sometimes I feel the block looks better now that I turned it. Sometimes I stop and go back after a while and make some changes to what I turned. These are the fun ones. Maybe I thought of something new while turning, maybe I messed something up while turning (I know hard to believe), and sometimes I realize my thoughts surpassed my ability. Anyway, I always like to think I learned something. That’s my goal for the club – I want you to be as enthusiastic about coming to the meetings as I am. I know that has been the goal of the past leaders and founders – I just need to keep that spirit going.

I have some new ideas for the club and want to make it as interactive as I can. When you attend next week - please plan to interact and most importantly share - share conversations, share direction, share concerns, share ideas and share your experience. (Remember every minute that someone in the club is **not** sharing – it gives me time to talk pen making – and we don’t want that to be the case. Do we?)

As prep for our first meeting, I do have an assignment for you. I plan to use part of the meeting to discuss direction for the club. Demos we would like to see. Projects we would like to look at as a club. Social activities we want. Positions we must fill. And how I can help you and the club grow. I will commit to working hard to serve this club and use any resources I can to make the third Wednesday of the month the best day of the month.

Thanks for having faith in me and I know this will be fun when we all work together.

Mark



# Holiday Party Recap

On December 20, 2023 Club members were able to have an impromptu Holiday Gathering at Draft Picks Sports Bar in Naperville.



We had a nice turnout of club members and spouses who enjoyed some delicious food, beverages and social time together to bring an end to the 2023 season of WCWT Club meetings and events. Many of those in attendance brought along a gift for the grab-bag gift exchange and those that participated were not disappointed in some of the gifts that were exchanged. We had ornaments, pens, bowls and other beautiful items turned or created by the participants.

Although our customary party had to be cancelled at the last minute, our “re-group” to an informal gathering proved to be a good time for all.



# CLUB NOTES

From member: Bob Moss



## Hawaii Wood Show

My son has lived in Honolulu for the past four years.

During a visit two years ago I joined the local woodturners club. On my last visit a real perk was to join other club members in setting up the annual Woodshow. Local woodworkers delivered their work while work from the other islands was shipped in. By helping with the set up we got to handle and discuss all the objects, something that was not allowed during the show. For a description of the show go to:

<https://woodshow.hawaiiforest.org>

**A very interesting video** of the show can be seen at:  
<https://youtu.be/P7Vi9hehbZk?si=YIP76GhpSTAfO1OX>

THANKS for sharing Bob! Some beautiful wood and works of art in the video.



At about 12:20 in the video was one of the more impressive works, a large box and cover. As the work was coming off the lathe it broke into five pieces. The turner then used 102 bow ties to reconstruct the box.

# CLUB NOTES

## Photographing Your Work

Submitted by: Marie Anderson

Based on several conversations, one of the biggest contributors to having work accepted into any show is having great photos of your work. Take the time to learn what makes an ok photo into a great photo. There are several articles on photographing your work on the AAW website. Remember a good photo may not get you into the show but a bad photo guarantees you won't make the cut.

The AAW has some excellent resources for those interested in stepping-up their game on photographing their work. Search the AAW web-site for these articles.

### **Taking Photos for Publication by Larry Mart**

AW1701p34-37.pdf

**Cooler Photography** by John Lucas - AW1904p30-32.pdf

**Simple Tips for Better Photos** by Kurt Hertzog

AW3303p24-27.pdf





# CLUB NOTES

## OPEN SHOP DAYS TO RESUME

Don't forget Open Shop day hosted by the Chicago Woodturners at the Chicago School of Woodworking on Sunday, January 28th. Shop will be open 9am-3pm.

Come out and enjoy turning with some of your woodturning friends. We always have rough turned empty bowl blanks (you turn and donate back for Empty Bowls) and we will also be turning Wig Stands with the hope that we will be able to make another delivery of at least a dozen wig stands by our February meeting. Contact Andy Kuby (Chicago Woodturners) or Marie Anderson to reserve your lathe.



**VOLUNTEER NEEDED**  
**- WEBMASTER -**

# OPEN SHOP DAYS EMPTY BOWLS



# Women In Turning (WIT) News

From: Marie Anderson

January 6th was the latest WIT Presents event showcasing Eleanor Lakelin and if you missed it you missed a good one! By the time this newsletter comes out (or shortly there after) the recorded replay will be available on the AAW website (just go to the WIT events archive page). The recording is definitely a great resource but you do miss the opportunity to ask questions.



Above – Angela McCrum, Executive Director Living Well Cancer Resource Center and Marie Anderson

On behalf of the WIT Committee Marie is still actively recruiting members to help turn wig stands for cancer patients.

Wig stands are such a gift to cancer patients. If each of our members committed to making at least 1 wig stand a year between the Windy City Woodturners and the Chicago Woodturners we would be very close to providing a full allotment of wig stands for those in-need at this time.. Thank you to those members who have donated so far to this worthy cause.

Instructions are available on-line, particularly through the Central Illinois Woodturners Club at:

<https://www.centralillinoiswoodturners.com/how-to-make-a-wig-stand/>

Please reach out to Marie if you have any questions!



# AAW Upcoming Events

AAW Upcoming events: more information and registration can be found here:

<https://www.woodturner.org/Woodturner/Events>



# AAW Upcoming Events

The 2024 AAW International Woodturning Symposium will be May 23-26 in Portland, Oregon.

The AAW International Woodturning Symposium is the biggest and most well-known annual woodturning event in the world. Held in a different region of the country each year, the Symposium attracts woodturning hobbyists, artists, professionals, collectors, vendors and anyone looking to learn more about the woodturning craft.

With 80+ live demonstrations, presentations and panel discussions, there is a lot to experience. It features the industry's largest and most attended tradeshow (showcasing companies of all sizes) and awe-inspiring galleries, exhibitions and auctions featuring unbelievable wood art from across the world.

Details can be found here:

<https://www.aawsymposium.org/>



# AAW NEWS

## AAW Calls for Entry Calendar deadlines:

**AAW 2024 Symposium Call for Videographers** Applications open December 15, 2023 to February 15, 2024. If you are going to Portland and have experience in videography you may have the skills to be an AAW videographer. Typically if you are chosen as a videographer you will receive a complimentary registration to the symposium.

**AAW 2024 Member Show "Common Roots"** Applications open January 1, 2024 to March 15, 2024.

[Click here for full details](#)

The theme for the 2024 AAW member show is *Common Roots*. Each year, our goal is to host a Symposium exhibition that showcases and celebrates the full scope of excellent work being created by our members, from impeccably-crafted 'round and brown' to innovative sculptures that push the boundaries.

As always, artists are encouraged to interpret the theme for themselves, but here are a few jumping off points for getting the creative wheels spinning: "common roots" could refer to our shared connections through craft, culture, heritage, foods, our role in the ecosystem, human community, or roots as symbols of strength or as an actual material.

Work will be selected through a blind jurying process. The entry fee is \$25 for up to three entries. There are two cash prizes for this exhibition: the \$300 Masters' Choice, selected by the jurors or their representatives, and the \$200 People's Choice, selected by attendees at the AAW Symposium in Portland, Oregon, May 23-26, 2024.



# AAW NEWS

AAW Calls for Entry Calendar deadlines:

## AAW 2024 POP Show and Auction "Balance"

Applications dates: December 1, 2023 **to January 15, 2024**  
Applications open! [Click here for more details](#)

The Professional Outreach Program (POP) is pleased to announce that the theme for its 18th annual exhibition and auction is "Balance." Each year, the POP shows have featured an exciting mix of excellent work created by a roster of national and international established, mid-career, and emerging artists.

POP themes are chosen to provide a dynamic springboard for creative ideas and a showcase for extraordinary small-scale work. Psychology has shown that limits spur creative thinking, and the size restriction (piece must fit in a 6"/15cm cube) provides a second creative constraint that we hope will spark your imagination and ingenuity.

Balance is central to almost every aspect of our existence, and as theme balance offers myriad possibilities. Balance could refer to physical, emotional, or environmental balance; balance as harmony in composition or in materials. Or to work/life balance, bank balance, balance of powers, to name just a few starting points.

The application fee is \$25 for up to three entries. All work will be part of the 2024 POP Auction at the AAW Symposium. Artists may set reserves, and retain up to 50% of the auction price.



# *Local & Other Events You Should Know About*



# Midwest Pen Turners Gathering

Registration for the 2024 Midwest Penturners Gathering is open!!

The 2024 event will be held April 19 and 20 at the Marriott Northwest in Hoffman Estates, IL. You know the MPG always tries to provide the best in content, demos, and vendors – and this year is no exception. Our demo line up looks great as we expand into some of the business and social aspect of your pen business, while still provide a great list of pen making topics and our staples. In addition, we are happy to welcome all our past vendors back.

## Why register now for April.

If you came to an event in the past, you know we give away a lathe and many more big and small prizes. The big prizes are tickets based on the earlier you sign up. Every month early gets you an extra ticket. You know you are coming - sign up NOW!

Keep an eye out on the website as we will be updating the information on that page as we get more details. The website will be our lifeline to you and all.

<http://midwestpenturnersgathering.com/>





# Local Events

## FINE LINE CREATIVE ARTS CENTER Accepting Applications for Show

This one is a little early, but gives you time to create something specifically for this show.

You might consider submitting a piece to the "Sculpture at the Kavanagh" Show which will be held at the Fine Line Creative Arts Center in St. Charles, IL The call for entry deadline is May 13, 2024 with a \$35 entry fee. Visit their website for the link to the submission form at <https://fineline.org>

The show will run from June 27- August 7, 2024.



# Local Events

## TURN ON CHICAGO



Registration has opened for Turn On! Chicago 2024 symposium.

This symposium is the single best gift you can give yourself. Live demonstrations, Large Trade Show, an instant gallery of inspiration created of pieces turned by attendees, hands on pens for troops pen turning activity, Saturday night banquet with LIVE auction supporting education in woodturning, WIT meeting, and plenty of time for meeting and socializing with new friends. Don't miss this one!

<https://www.turnonchicago.com/>



# Windy City Officers

Please reach out to your officers with any questions; concerns; compliments, etc.

We are always looking for meeting topics and demonstrators! Please feel free to also ask about volunteer opportunities.



- ▶ Mark Dreyer– President [mg\\_dreyer@yahoo.com](mailto:mg_dreyer@yahoo.com)
- ▶ Nathan Wick – Vice President [nwick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nwick@sbcglobal.net)
- ▶ Nick Page – Treasurer [nicklpage@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nicklpage@sbcglobal.net)
- ▶ John Dillon – Secretary/Newsletter Editor [dillon60119@att.net](mailto:dillon60119@att.net)
- ▶ Marie Anderson– Past President [danmar12@yahoo.com](mailto:danmar12@yahoo.com)

# THANK-YOU!

## WCWT 2023 Committee Volunteers

- ▶ **Photography** - Dave Burk
- ▶ **Events** – **Open**
- ▶ **Raffle**– Richard Nye
- ▶ **A/V** – **Open**
- ▶ **Library**- Rich Hall-Reppen



# *And Finally.....*

- This is your newsletter and personal stories, events and other tidbits are welcome.
- Tools for sale? Garage Sales? Fresh cut logs? Let us know.
- Photos of shop improvements or new ideas? Maybe you got a new lathe? Took a class from a pro? Let's share.....
- Birthdays, baby births and wedding information all make for good news in newsletters, so please share what's going on in your family life!
- Send any "news items" you might have to John Dillon at [dillon60119@att.net](mailto:dillon60119@att.net)

