

Windy City Newsletter

December, 2014

Volume 15, Issue 12

Holiday Party

The November Newsletter / Email erroneously said that the Holiday Party would be on December 17. That was incorrect, the third Tuesday is the 16th, and that is party night. Otherwise the description of the event published in November holds. Since this year is different than usual, the outline is repeated below.

1. **We won't have spouses or a full catered meal**, but there will still be "eats". The club will provide **delivered pizzas and drinks for members** (vegetarian and gluten free choices will be included), and birthday celebrants will provide desert.
2. The **"Member Gift Exchange"** will still be a part of the event. If you want to participate, bring a wrapped gift of \$20 minimum value. It could be a tool or gift certificate, a used item, a fabulous piece of wood – as long as it is worth at least \$20. Put your name inside the package so that the exchange winner will know who to thank.
3. Another feature normally included at the Holiday Party will be the **Free Prize Drawing**. A variety of prizes will be available, all members present will get a ticket and each lucky winner will choose their prize.
4. The **Program will be from a Woodturning DVD** by Glenn Lucas, a production bowl turner who recently demonstrated at Chicago Woodturners.
5. There will be an **Instant Gallery Table** and **Critique if time is available**. This would be your last chance this year to bring in your latest and favorite ornament or gift idea.

This 2014 format looks pretty busy so we are putting the most important things first. If the DVD gets truncated or the critique doesn't happen, we'll be sure the partying gets done.

AAW Turning Scholarships

Once again this year AAW awarded 28 scholarships to John C. Campbell and Arrowmont. Windy City submitted two candidates for the scholarship drawing. Along with those from other clubs, the total in the drawing pot was 138. We didn't have a winner this year. Sorry Dave Burk and Dave Neybert, better luck to Windy City next year.

This is a combination event for AAW. Partly it serves their goal of educating and promoting woodturning. In addition, it is a sort of membership drive since clubs have to have a certain number of AAW members in order to submit a candidate for the drawing. This year we tallied 51 AAW members among our 70, so we qualified for 2 submissions. If we hadn't had at least 50, we couldn't have put anyone forward.

Election of New Officers

Club officers elected at the November meeting included Don Johnston, President; Dawn Herndon-Charles, Vice President; Nick Page, Treasurer; Paul Shotola, Newsletter / Secretary. Thanks to the incumbents for running again, and to Paul Shotola for taking on the Newsletter duties. John Meyer was recognized for his contribution to the Newsletter in 2014.

November Meeting

We had a good turnout for the November 25 meeting. Nobody present admitted that they had mistakenly come on our usual 3rd Tuesday the week prior. Unfortunately our presenter did not make the meeting. Apologies to all for this, we will look into rescheduling the presentation on finishes for another time.

On the positive side, we had time for some more extensive discussion of gallery items and other topics. In addition to more detailed conversation on more turning, we learned that two of our members had purchased the economical vacuum chucking system that was presented at the October meeting. Both had used the system and were pleased with its performance.

Dues

Annual dues are to be paid by January 1 of a new year. You can still pay Nick Page at the December 16 meeting or mail your check to Nick Page, 670 Welch Street, Gilberts, IL 60136.

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Once Upon a Christmas

Seven Windy City members entertained families attending this event at the Museum at Lisle Station Park on December 6th and 7th. They were Bob Bergstrom, Paul Pycik, Hector Fuster, Paul Shotola, Nick Page, Don Johnston, and Fritz Wolf. The weather was pretty nice this year – well above freezing. But it was still nice to have Pete D'Attomo's propane heater at our backs. Thanks also for the loan of Paul Pycik's lathe and lights.

Bob Goodwin and Jim Fousek who head up the blacksmith group made a point saying how pleased they were with our participation. They were convinced that the Blacksmith Shop (including Windy City) was the best venue at the event.

It is important for us to participate in this as one of the museum sponsors is our Lisle Park District host. And, of course, it is fun for us to help people learn about turning.

This was the 5th and final occasion in 2014 when Windy City Members demonstrated their hobby to the public. Thanks to all of you who did so and thereby promoted the club and the craft.

Photographic Membership "List"

Bob Bergstrom has graciously offered to again create a document which includes member's photographs, names, and phone numbers. We wear name tags and mostly recognize each other on sight. But this photographic membership list helps refresh our memories between monthly meetings. It puts a name with a face, and is especially useful to new members.

Bob will be taking photos at the next several meetings. Please help him make this document complete. When reasonably complete, we will distribute the document to members.