

BAY AREA



WOODTURNERS  
ASSOCIATION  
A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION  
LOCAL CHAPTER AAW

October 2019

Volume 23 Issue 10

**David Ellsworth**  
**Bowl Turning**  
**October 12, 2019**  
**8:30 AM - 4:00 PM**



On Saturday, October 12, 2019, David Ellsworth, will be presenting to our club. David has devoted most of his life to turning wood and creating extraordinary pieces of art. He has also spent his life teaching woodturning and promoting the woodturning industry. As a founding member of the AAW, he is known across the globe for his woodturning skills.

**David's Presentation on October 12<sup>th</sup> will be as follows:**

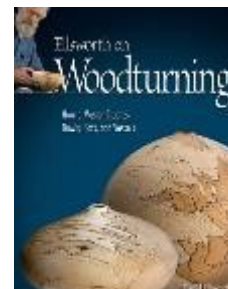
The morning (approximately 3 hrs.) will consist of demonstrating a cut-rim open bowl with detailed explanations, plus tool design and sharpening and, if time permits, turning a 15-minute natural edge bowl, using the Ellsworth signature gouge.

The afternoon session (approximately 3 hrs.) will consist of turning a hollow form plus open discussions on any subject the club members might wish to propose in the time remaining.

Before the meeting, please take a few minutes and stop by David Ellsworth's website and check out his artwork.  
(<http://ellsworthstudios.com>)

About a week or two before the meeting you will be sent the handouts that David has sent me to pass on to you. They cover everything from sharpening to his turning school on the East Coast. His handouts also include a list of suppliers where he buys the items he uses to make his own tools and his workshop where he teaches.

I look forward to seeing you at this amazing artist's presentation.





# BAY AREA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION  
LOCAL CHAPTER AAW

## Club Meetings

Meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each month unless otherwise noted.

8:30 doors open for setup, use store and library, swap ideas, view displays

9:00—12:30 meeting and demo

*Meetings will be held at the PHEC Woodturning Center, 1 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill, CA.*

See [bayareawoodturners.org/](http://bayareawoodturners.org/) for directions and club information.

### **BAWA Officers Meeting -**

Officer meetings are open to all members. Contact Kim Wolfe at: [president@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:president@bayareawoodturners.org) if you would like to be on the agenda.

## 2019-2020 Event Schedule

Oct 12th	David Ellsworth Bowls & Hollow Forms 8:30-4:00
Nov 9th	Hugh Buttrum Christmas Ornaments 8:30-12:30
Dec 8th	Holiday Party 11:00-2:00 <b>Sunday</b>
Jan 11th 2020	Jim Rodgers 8:30-12:30
Feb 8th 2020	Cindy Navarro 8:30-12:30
Mar 14th 2020	Brad Adams 8:30-12:30
May 9th 2020	Dixie Biggs 8:30-12:30

The Bay Area Woodturners Association is a local chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. Our purpose is to provide a meeting place for local turners to share ideas and techniques and to educate the general public regarding the art of turning. The Association usually meets the second Saturday of each month. The Association periodically sponsors exhibitions and demonstrations by local and internationally known turners.

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TBA

# Graeme Priddle & Melissa Engler

## A Carved Bowl, Combining Texturing and Color

### Presented on September 7, 2019

If you missed the Graeme Priddle and Melissa Engler presentation or saw the first part of the presentation and had to leave, you missed the second part of the presentation about texturing, how to add color to bring out the texturing and how to make burning brands for your wood burner out of wire and old carving burrs.

On the tables in front of the stage were some items for sale including Nickel Cadmium wire and carving burrs. There were several types of paint on the tables that would be used in the demonstrations (both milk and acrylic paint). Also arranged across the tables were all of the items Graeme and Melissa brought to show their art and use in their presentation.



Graeme started out the presentation talking about safety, and then turning a round-bottomed bowl with a very wide rim and a small bowl area in the middle of the finished product. When the bowl was finished he passed it on to Melissa where she showed how they decorate the bowl using a power carver and color. Her design ideas for the bowl came from a Nautilus shell, with circles carved in an ever-increasing circle (see the pictures from the meeting). Multiple colors applied at the end added depth and definition to the carving for wonderful results.

Graeme then showed how to use nickel cadmium wire and brass tubing to make a burning brand for a wood burner. Graeme also made burning brands out of old wood carving burrs that were no longer sharp and nickel Cadmium wire. The end result of the collaboration between Graeme turning and Melissa adding designs through carving and burning gave extraordinary results. The last touches to finish a piece involved color, where Melissa's perspective had spectacular results.

Color was added and helped make the carvings extraordinary. The presentation had the audience standing, surrounding both presenters asking lots of questions. I personally learned a lot and found some new types of carving burrs that I had never seen before, so, naturally I bought them. It also gave new life to some burrs that I was going to throw away.

Richard Dietrich took lots of photos and I am editing a movie of the presentation taken by Larry Batti for all of you to see.

To see the artwork of Graeme and Melissa please check out their websites, Graeme's website <http://graemepriddle.com>, and Melissa's website [www.melissaengler.com/about](http://www.melissaengler.com/about).



Shaping exterior



Sample boards of techniques



Applying acrylic paint with toothbrush



Next step-milk paint



Final results



Burning shapes on eggs



Resulting finish



Embellished wood-en eggs

# Hugh Buttrum

## Christmas Ornaments

November 9, 2019



Hugh Buttrum will be our last presenter of 2019. His presentation to BAWA will cover Christmas Ornaments. He is a well-versed turner, a member of Wine Country Woodturners as well as BAWA, well known in our industry and a true supporter of woodturning.

Hugh Buttrum, began wood turning when he was in high school. After a stint in the Navy and a career as a California State Fish and Wildlife Officer, he started devoting more time to woodturning.

Hugh is self-taught; he started with a book by Richard Raffin, and quickly refined his skills and began developing his own style. His wife, seeing how interested he was in woodturning gave him a gift, by enrolling him at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. He loved that environment, and quickly became an expert turner. In 2000 he returned to the school as a volunteer, which he has done more than once.

As Hugh's woodturning hobby grew to a passion, he began turning bowls, hollow forms, making boxes, creating tools and presenting to woodturning groups. He has added carving to his palette and color to his many artistic pieces to round out his wood turning skills.

Like many of us, he can hear a chain saw off in the distance with warm thoughts of free wood. He has also developed his own personal tip club that helps him get lots of free wood.

I hope to see you at the November meeting, it should be fun and give you some ideas for Christmas presents.



# WIT Exchange 2019



by Cindy Navarro

In early September I attended a WIT (Women in Turning) event at The Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts. It was my first time for this type of event and I am very glad that did.

It was a group of 42 women from all over the country who came together to work collaboratively and learn about how to tap into our creativity.

We were divided into groups of 3, a different group each day of 3. We chose two words from two different bags—one a verb and the other a descriptive word. Then we had a day from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM to come up with a concept and implement it into a creative piece.

Each group was given the same pieces of wood—a 3”x9” piece of ash, a 8”x 3” x8” piece of maple, and 6”x 6” x12” piece of wet wood. We had the use of the Arrowmont wood shop and all of the amazing equipment.

I found that I have never given much thought to how one’s creative process occurs. I also haven’t really thought that I was very creative. Woodturning has given me an opportunity to begin to accept that I am.

This event was a very enlightening experience and I learned new ways to tap into my own creative process and I also found that working collaboratively with other people can open the(my) mind and heart to new ways to express that creative process.

Each day after dinner we would assemble in the auditorium and each group had 4 minutes to discuss their process and explain how we had come up with the final piece.

It was such a fine experience. I made new friends from all over the country, who all love woodturning; got the opportunity to teach some of the newbies; opened my mind and heart to allowing myself to explore my own creative process and came home with renewed energy to go outside of my comfort zone in my woodturning.

If you get the opportunity to take a class, attend a lecture, go to an art gallery or teach someone jump at it and see where it might lead you.



Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts



2018 Participants

## President's Chatter

October 2019



Got color . . .

Wow, last month we watched our demonstrators work with shape, texture and color. A lot of color. In the past our members have used dye or copic markers or leafing as an embellishment. But wow, open the flood gates with paint and let the color flow . . .

Am I ready for that?

What I find most fun about turning is "the discovery process". I never know what lies deep within the wood. Sometimes the promise of movement within the grain or chatoyancy does not appear. Other times an average piece of wood will deliver a stunning array of color. I feel compelled to admit that I did not especially like wood before I began woodturning. Thankfully Mother Nature continues to provide enough interesting detail to keep me at the lathe.

As for color, guess I can add it, sparingly, to straight grain boring pieces of wood. But I do look forward to seeing how our members incorporate color into their turnings. Please bring those colorful creations for show and tell!

See you Saturday  
Kim Wolfe

## The elections are coming!

BAWA will hold its officer elections at the October meeting.

If you are interested in a Board seat or would like to find out how to help run the club, please see or email any board member to find out more. Remember, your participation is what makes this club the best!



## Rockler Helps BAWA Members

BAWA members receive a 10% discount when purchasing directly at the Concord Rockler Store at:

<http://www.rockler.com/retail/stores/ca/concord-store>.

Mention your BAWA membership when checking out, to receive your discount. Rockler also donates part of the proceeds back to the club which help support our Holiday Party raffle.



## Membership News By Hugh Bevan-Thomas



Well, here it is, time to start thinking about renewing your membership. Remember the membership year runs from January to January

I know many of you have sleepless nights wondering if you will get screwed one way or another, if you renew early !!

Rest assured, that will not happen, Feel free to renew whenever the mood strikes you. Sooner rather than later.

# BAWA Holiday Party

## Sunday, December 8th

BAWA's annual Holiday Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Walnut Creek Elk's Lodge from 11 am to 2:00pm. Lunch will be catered by Kinder's Barbecue this year that will serve ball tip steak and chicken with the usual barbecue sides. They will have a vegetarian option for those that request it. Tickets will be priced at \$15 and will be available for purchase (cash or check) at the October and November Club meetings.

Beyond being a great social gathering, this event is our annual fund-raiser where we generate the funds to be able to offer several world class professional demonstrators at our meetings. We do that with the silent auction and raffle. The Silent Auction features many items that members can bid on; the high bid gets the item. Items include a variety of turning wood donated by John Cobb, Steve Griswold, Tony Wolcott and others, as well as wine and other items that would appeal to our members. The Raffle includes several Gift Baskets stuffed with woodturning items, gift certificates and other goodies. **Please start thinking about what you can donate to the silent auction table or Raffle baskets.** Contact Anna Duncan at [ajduncan3@comcast.net](mailto:ajduncan3@comcast.net) to arrange your donation.

Like last year, we will host an Instant Gallery at the Party. Members are encouraged to bring up to 3 pieces that they're especially proud of to display. Last year this was a new experience and members really enjoyed looking at each other's work and being able to chat with fellow artists about their creations.

More news to follow; for now, mark your calendars, consider what you can donate to the Silent Auction or Raffle, and start choosing the pieces you'd like to display in the Instant Gallery.

Thanks,

Anna

Holiday Party featuring Kinder's Barbecue on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 11 am to 2pm at the Walnut Creek Elk's Lodge

\$15 tickets for sale at BAWA Club meetings until December 1<sup>st</sup>. After December 1<sup>st</sup>, ticket price will be \$25

Consider donating items for silent auction or raffle to raise funds in support of the Club

Participate in the Instant Gallery.

## 2018 Party Pics



## September Show & Tell



Bob Bean-  
Celtic Knot Pepper Mill



Larry Batti-  
Cross Grain Vase & Lidded Box



John Lawson-  
Marbled Platter



Marvin Bargagliotti-  
Pepper Mill



Charlie Saul-  
Carved Bowl



Vern Stovall-  
Stitched Bowl



*Continued on following page*



# September Show & Tell (cont.)



Jim Campbell-  
Spheres



Paul Litsky-  
Hollow Forms



Marty Osborn-  
Spheres & Vacuum Chuck



Gary Bingham-  
Vase



John Cobb-  
Hollow Pieces



John Langen-  
Vessels

*Continued on following page*

## September Show & Tell (cont.)



Hugh Bevan-Thomas-  
Open Segmented Vase



Harvey Klein-  
Miniatures



Peter Nakatani-  
Platter



Michael Hackett-  
Bowls



Jim Rodgers-  
Ornaments, Tool & Jig



*Continued on following page*

## September Show & Tell (cont.)



Brad Adams-  
Natural Edged Bowl & Bullet Bowl



Peter Travis-  
Interior & Exterior of Engraved Bowl

### DON'T FORGET!

Bring some of that wood you have taking up space in your shop to share in our monthly raffle.



### BAWA Classified Ads



We want members and others with items to sell or trade, services to render or if you're just looking to find a specific item from fellow BAWA members. Please send ads to Louie Silva at: [newslettereditor@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:newslettereditor@bayareawoodturners.org)

You can't beat the price...FREE!!

## ASK THE EXPERT

Help! I've got a question for the expert.

### Q: Endgrain problem.

I am turning face grain solid maple and I cannot get the endgrain to cut smoothly. It always turns out rough in the two places where I cut endgrain. I sand the crap out of it and I apply my wipe-on finish and it appears dull even after five coats. I keep my tools sharp. Is there a filler you can put on the endgrain so that when you finish it, it will appear smooth all over?

~ Chuck Marsh

### A: What to do when you get tearout.

Tearout often happens when you're forced to turn up-hill against the grain. This happens frequently on sidegrain bowls, usually 180 degrees apart. It can also happen when turning segmented work if you're not careful in orienting the grain on all the pieces.

A freshly sharpened tool is essential as well as not forcing the cut. I find that it's very easy to push a tool too fast through the wood. You want to go at a rate that lets the tool cut. This can be a tricky thing to learn but well worth the effort. Speed up the lathe and slow down your feed rate and you may get rid of the tearout.



Tool presentation to the wood and the sharpening angle of the tool are also important.

I'll talk about sharpening angle first. My typical bowl gouge is ground at about 55 degrees. If I can, I'll switch to my 40-degree bowl gouge. If that doesn't work, then I will try my spindle gouge that I sharpen at about 35 degrees. Of course, you still need to rub the bevel for a clean cut and sometimes the 40 or 35 degree angle may be too acute. I am a big fan of the Hunter carbide tools for cleaning up torn grain. The reason is that the tool face is recessed so you get a cutting angle of about 30 degrees. The Hunter Osprey has the cutter tilted down at 30 degrees, so from the side the bevel appears to be the same as the 55-degree bowl gouge, which means it's easy to rub the bevel inside a bowl. However, you're still cutting with that very sharp 30-degree cutting edge.

Tool presentation to the wood can also help. You want the wood to go across the blade in a slicing angle. A very rough description is that you're using the skew as a paring tool. The wood comes across the blade at 90 degrees. This is a very fast

cut but usually leaves a slightly torn surface. Swing the tool handle so the wood hits the blade at a 45-degree angle and you get a very clean cut. Spindle gouges and bowl gouges work exactly the same—it's just more complicated because of the curve. Watch how the wood comes across the cutting edge. A slicing cut will work better than a peeling cut. This can usually be accomplished by rotating the tool to change where and how the wood comes across the blade. The steeper the angle, the better the cut, usually. Really swirly wood grains or things like bird's-eye maple may not cut as cleanly with these severe angles.

Last but not least, use some sort of chemical to solidify the fibers. I use lacquer thinned about 50/50 with lacquer thinner. One or two coats usually works. It dries fast and is relatively inexpensive. For punky woods I may use five or six coats, letting it really soak in. I also use thin CA glue for smaller areas. The glue is too expensive to use on large areas but it works well. Be sure to let it dry. It's impossible to get off your glasses or face shield. Avoid the fumes, which can really burn your eyes. That's why I tend to use the lacquer.

I find most often on problem woods that it takes a little bit of all of these. I had a piece of green walnut that tested all of these procedures until I finally got it cut cleanly. It's worth the effort. I'm one of those strange people who doesn't mind sanding because I believe it's what brings the wood to the next level. That being said, I despise sanding torn grain.

Two tricks I've learned to solve that problem. **First trick** is to stop the lathe and sand just the torn grain area. It's my belief that quite often these areas are mildly recessed so the sandpaper simply skips over them when you sand under power. Stop the lathe and sand just the area and it will reduce the time it takes to get rid of these marks tremendously.

**Second trick.** Again with the lathe off, use a round cabinet scraper. It will remove tearout very quickly. It will leave a divot so you have to feather around the area with the same tool to sort of disguise the crater. It works very well and doesn't leave the lumpy summer/winter wood that you get with sandpaper.

~John Lucas, a retired photographer, has been working in wood for about 35 years and also dabbles in metalworking. He also enjoys modifying machines, making tools, and sharing his knowledge through written articles and videos. He has taught classes at John C. Campbell Folk School, Arrowmont, and The Appalachian Center for Crafts.

### Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

For the safety of everyone, as well as for legal reasons, manufacturers are required to have an MSDS for each of their products. MSDS list major chemical components for flammability and health hazards and sometimes list the entire chemical makeup of a product. MSDS should also contain instruction for the safe use and potential hazards of a product.

## Attention BAWA members who shop on Amazon.com

BAWA is always looking for ways to generate funds to improve our Club. BAWA recently registered with Amazon's program to support charitable organizations, AmazonSmile. It is an easy, no cost way for our Club to benefit from your Amazon.com shopping expenditures.

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization; **BAWA!** When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same products, prices, and Amazon Prime benefits as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate .5% of the purchase price to BAWA.

Here's how it works:

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you need to designate BAWA to receive donations before you begin shopping. We are one of the almost one million charitable organizations registered with Amazon Smile. From then on when you enter Amazon through <https://smile.amazon.com> every eligible purchase you make will result in a donation to BAWA.

You may want to bookmark the AmazonSmile URL to your desktop or mobile device to insure that you don't end up at the standard Amazon portal, thus bypassing benefit to BAWA.

If you haven't already done so, please consider registering with AmazonSmile and designating BAWA as your beneficiary. And encourage your friends and family to do likewise! We look forward to updating membership monthly on donations from this unique program.



A large graphic featuring a thick, dark red checkmark on the left side, followed by the word "Vote" in a bold, dark blue, serif font.