

**John Cobb Demonstrates on November 10, 2018  
Turning Hollow Forms**

John Cobb, our outgoing president, presents on November 10, 2018. As the year comes to a close, John is our last presenter for the year before the Christmas party. As one of the best Hollow Form artists in the club, and a teacher at the Mt. Diablo Adult Education school of Woodturning, he brings a unique perspective to the way he picks the wood he uses for Hollow Forms and how he finishes his individual pieces of art.



John, a native of Seattle and graduate of the University of Washington, lives in Marin County. The Bay Area's broad range of climates produces ideal growing conditions for hundreds of species of trees. Rich dark walnut, spectacular maple burl and exotic Olive are some of the beautiful woods periodically available.

All of the sourced wood comes from stumps reclaimed from arborist woodpiles. These once spectacular trees have been removed for disease or safety concerns and are headed for the landfill or fireplace.

Every week John climbs through arborist piles throughout the Bay Area searching for logs that have incredible potential hidden beneath the bark. Returning to the shop with one piece or a trailer load, John chainsaws each log into approximate shape and then mounts the blank on a lathe for turning.

John is known for more than Hollow Forms, he also creates vessels, heirloom bowls and natural edge bowls. Please come and join us for the last presenter of 2018. This meeting will be a great finish to our presenters of 2018.

*Below is a short timeline about John and his woodturning.*

- 2018; President BAWA
- 2016; President BAWA
- 2015; President BAWA
- 2013; Vice President BAWA
- 2014; Urban Hardwoods: San Francisco, Seattle, Santa Monica
- 2014; Gallery M, Half Moon Bay
- 2014; Salad bowl production turner: The Gardner stores
- 2014; Woodturning instructor: Mt Diablo Woodturning Center
- 2014; Diablo Woodworkers: Demonstrator
- 2013; Sonoma County Museum: Artistry in Wood
  - Juried show: 5 pieces accepted
  - 2 awards of excellence
- 2013; American Craft Council San Francisco
  - Demonstrator
- 2013 - Current:
  - Bay Area Woodturners Association
- 2010; Current
  - Full Time Woodturning





# 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 John Cobb at: [president@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:president@bayareawoodturners.org) if you would like to be on the agenda.

## 2018 – 2019 Event Schedule

Nov 10th	John Cobb Hollow Form From Log 8:30-12:30
Dec 8th	Holiday Party 11:00-2:30
Jan 12th 2019	Jim Rodgers 8:30-12:30
Feb 9th	Mike Mahoney A Remote Demo 8:30-12:30
Mar 9th	Dave Fleisig Epoxy Ring Embellishments 8:30-12:30
Mar 15-17th	Oregon Woodturning Symposium Albany, OR

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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Social Coordinator  
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# Holiday Party Saturday December 8, 2018

Celebrating another great year of fellowship and flying chips!

We will return to the Elks Lodge in Walnut Creek for our annual luncheon. Bring a guest and enjoy the instant gallery, raffle, silent auction and a year in review presentation.

**Party time:** 11 - 2:30 The Elks Lodge is located at: 1475 Creekside Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 9459

**Cost:** \$15 per person before Dec 1

**Catered by New Mecca Cafe** - Motto - "We cook with pride"

*Undoubtedly many of you are familiar with New Mecca and it's Mexican dishes in a retro-style eatery founded by a top cyclist who left Guadalajara in the 1960s.*

## Holiday Instant Gallery

*Like the idea of show and tell but not ready to stand up in front of a group? Love to discuss your process? Turn only a few items per year? Turning all the time and turning a profit too? Then join in the Instant Gallery!*

It's important we get to celebrate each other's work so - buff up the last piece you finished, dust off an old favorite or pick a project you can complete by December 8th - we want to see your work!

The rules are simple, No rules. Members will self identify, beginner (two years or less) or everyone else. Look forward to seeing your work the holiday party.

## Holiday Silent Auction

With your help the auction will be great fun and a successful fund-raiser for the club. Please consider making a donation or securing one from your favorite vendor or local business.

Some ideas that have been popular include:

- Mentoring/Tutoring (pick a topic you know well and would be of interest to others.)
- Wine or Activity (to do outside of turning - favored by spouses )
- A beautiful piece of figured wood or burl
- Consulting/advice (e.g. building an efficient dust collection system)
- NEW Special Tools or Jig
- Services (e.g. wood stabilization, coring etc.)

We are beginning to source green wood for the auction. Contact John Cobb if you know of something SPECIAL. Proceeds go to the club and help support our programs. The board will be happy to work with you in managing your donations. Bringing your donation to the November BAWA meeting would be very helpful!

Contact Kim Wolfe if you need to make special arrangements:

[memberatlarge@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:memberatlarge@bayareawoodturners.org)

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# Elks Lodge in Walnut Creek Map



# Bob Nolan

## October 13, 2018

Bob Nolan showed us how to create a bowl within a bowl on Saturday October 13, 2018. It was a fun presentation and as we have done with all of our presentations in the past few years, was recorded. Bob's presentation if you missed it is now up on our website in the "Members Only" section, under "Meeting Videos". If you missed the presentation, you can still view it at your leisure. If there is something you want to see again or missed, just click on the words, "October 2018 – Bob Nolan" and you will be taken to YouTube to see the video.



Bob came well prepared and wasted no time showing us how he creates a bowl within a bowl. He explained his bowl and got right down to creating his piece of art. As a consummate teacher, he described his technique, how he places his bowls within bowls then produced his product. His bowl within a bowl is one of those items that would make a perfect Christmas present for your spouse or a relative.

To look at more items that Bob has made, visit his website, "Bob Nolan Woodturning". He has a wonderful gallery full of items that he has created including my favorite items the basket illusion pieces. His baskets are created with respect for Native Americans and their history and reflect the unique characteristics of their original baskets and the colors used. Bob's baskets are made of wood and are an illusion of the baskets made by Native Americans who used plants and natural colors to make beautiful baskets.

Keep your eyes open for Bob's next class, they are always interesting with a lot of instruction on how to make your next project spectacular. See you at the next meeting.



A Variation of an Offset Bowl



Shaping the Bowl



Faceplate From Center to Offset Position #1



Finished Bowl #1



Hollowing Offset #3



Bowl Ready for Base Removal



An Example of Bob's Finished Work



The Artist's Signature



## President's Chatter

*November 2018*

Each year BAWA members donate turned pieces to the Woodturning School craft sale which helps fund new tool purchases. Recently Jim bought three Oneway coring systems so now there are classes on producing nested sets of bowls. The school also provides us a place for our meetings and sawdust sessions; few clubs in the country have access to this type of facility. So I encourage everyone to bring a turned item to the November meeting as a donation to the school - it's in our best interest to see that program thrive.

Now, what to bring in? This is where donating gets us in the shop and doing what we all love to do. I recently sent to members an email about turning snowmen & snowwomen ornaments. A super easy project and one that can be customized with lots of room for creativity. There are plenty of other turned ornament projects, with a quick google, YouTube or Etsy search I am sure you can find something that peaks your interest. Plan on making 5 or 10, keep the best ones to give to family and friends and the others to the craft sale. Send me a picture of what you make and we will put them all in the newsletter next month.

With 2019 fast approaching, take a look at the BAWA calendar and you will see the great job VP Dave Bentley has done getting us a fabulous list of presenters lined up for next year. In my 7 years with the club including two as VP, I don't think the schedule has ever been that well organized. Well done Dave.

This month, the Board has me working the demo lathe with a hollow form presentation - so that means bring in hollow forms for show-and-tell. It will be great to see what everyone has done and hear the story behind your piece. The wood raffle was a boon last month with lots of Carob and other wood, lets keep the momentum going and bring in a couple pieces to add to the pile.

I look forward to seeing everyone on Saturday.



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## Wanted: a few good snow men and women

The Woodturning School's Annual Holiday Sale is rapidly approaching and they need some snowmen & snowwomen to sell!

Making holiday ornaments is always a fun event this time of year and the woodturning school would love your assistance. BAWA always donates items to the holiday sale and this year we want to offer more ornaments. Snowmen are a perfect quick turning project and you can easily make half a dozen in an afternoon as you perfect your skills.

Here is a link that does a great job of showing how to turn a snowman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0XgMO-m1-k>

If you have time, could you please make a handful of snowmen or any other ornament and bring them to the BAWA meeting on Nov 10th? Of course, any other turned item is always a welcome donation as well.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated as all the funds go directly to buying equipment and tools that otherwise would not be possible. I look forward to seeing what everyone brings in.

Keep turning.  
John Cobb



## Tips and Techniques

It has been a busy month and I having been having difficulty thinking of something to write about for this month's column. I decided to look back over the past months of articles. I found this one and think it is worth repeating.

Working with different glues it is important to understand how to use them and was that one is better than another.

CA comes in many viscosities and can be very useful for ensuring that cracks don't become larger, helping keep the bark on a natural edge piece, and as a finish.

Some tips for working with CA:

Make sure that the wood is dry as water is a catalyst for CA and will cause it to harden quickly. If you are doing a project with CA and wish for it to harden use baking soda. Apply the CA and then sprinkle it with baking soda. The baking soda will cause the CA to harden very quickly and without any foaming or becoming brittle.

If using it as a finish. Make sure that the wood is sanded well because the marks will definitely show through the CA when it is dry so sand up through 600. Use either a small plastic bag, closed cell packing material cut into strips or small pieces of folded paper towel. **DO NOT USE CLOTH OF ANY TYPE.** Apply multiple layers being patient to allow each layer to dry. If you use accelerator and you spray it to close or too much you will get a clouding effect and have to begin over after sanding it back down to bare wood.

If you are working with epoxy it is a good idea to have a spray bottle of 91% Isopropyl alcohol and some paper towels handy. The alcohol can be used to clean up any squeeze out and to clean up your bench and hands. It will even clean up dried epoxy with a little scrubbing.

If you are using Gorilla glue it is important to use it sparingly as it does foam and can push pieces apart if they are not clamped correctly. If you get it on your hands it can be difficult to get it off. I suggest wearing gloves that fit well and somewhat tightly. When using this glue I wear a size smaller so I have



by Cindy Navarro

better feeling and less mess.

Last, but not least, is wood glue. It is important to not apply too much or you will have difficulty with squeeze out. If you do have squeeze out then use wait until it has set up slightly and use a plastic scraper to remove it.

If you use a wet paper towel to clean it up, you will dilute the glue and it will get into the pores of the wood and make it much more difficult to clean up, especially if you don't want to stain the piece.

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## DVD Review

### “Turning Boxes with Richard Raffan”

This is a very good DVD for both the beginner and the experienced turner. It is an easy to watch DVD filled with helpful information and tips.

Richard is a professional turner who shares his tips for using the skew and scrapers to make beautiful boxes. He talks you through the task of making a box from start to finish.

His manner is factual and filled with ways to fix errors that might occur and during the video makes a few and shows that it is no big deal and that everyone does it.

His boxes are nicely designed and he shares how to develop your designs and how to accomplish finished work in an easy to understand manner.

I recommend to anyone who wants or already makes boxes but may have had difficulty in getting a good fit. His use of the skew gives the viewer the sense that it is not as difficult.

**ENJOY!**



# Cringe Worthy Video of the Month

Owning a Chainsaw doesn't make you a logger



Copy & Paste to Browser: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/0BLsYRfgHWI>

Provided by Dean Adkins

## The elections are coming!

Some think the November midterm elections are the next big deal, but that's not the case. BAWA will hold its officer elections at the November meeting.



If you are interested in a Board seat or would like to find out how to help run the club, please see me, any other Board member or send an email and we can discuss.

John Cobb - Outgoing President

## DON'T FORGET!

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





# BAWA Meeting Video's

Just wanted to make sure you know what videos are available on the BAWA website. We have seven videos that were produced in 2017, you can find them in the list below. In 2018 we have 12 videos that have already been produced, they range from videos of our guest speakers, to three short training videos highlighting Jim Rodgers covering the use, sharpening and reason for each tool and a video on the Southwest Association of Turners Convention given to the club by Jean-Louis Meynier. There is one video (Sam Angelo's presentation) that is still under construction and two or three more that will occur before the end of the year.

You can find all the videos on the main page of the BAWA website, under the Members Section, click on Meeting Videos and the video list comes up. Once you find the video you want to see, just click on the video and you will be taken to the video for playback and viewing.

## Videos From 2017

[May 2017 Mike Mahoney](#)

• [Part 1](#)

[Part 2](#)

[June 2017 Brad Adams](#)

[September 2017 Kalia Kilban](#)

[November 2017 Carl Jacobson](#)

[December 2017 BAWA Christmas Party](#)



## Videos From 2018

[January 2018 Jim Rodgers](#)

[February 2018 Karen Freitas](#)

[March 2018 Rudy Lopez](#)

[April 2018 John Jordan Part I](#)

[April 2018 John Jordan Part II](#)

[May 2018 Robert Whitworth](#)

[June 2018 Jay Holland](#)

[Jim Rodgers - Lesson 1 The Spindle Roughing Gouge](#)

[Jim Rodgers - Lesson 2, The Skew](#)

[Jim Rodgers - Lesson 3, The Shallow Fluted Spindle Gouge and Detail Gouge](#)

[Photos of the 2018 Southwest Association of Turners SWAT](#)

Photo's by Jean-Louis Meynier

[September 2018 - Sam Angelo, The Wyoming Woodturner \(Under Construction\)](#)

[October 2018 - Bob Nolan](#)

[November 2018 - John Cobb \(Coming in Nov.\)](#)

[December 2018 - BAWA Year in Review 2018 \(Coming in Dec.\)](#)



The Board and the Video Staff hope you enjoy.

**Dave Bentley**



"Don't tell me how to work safely!  
I've been at this job for five years!"

## 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!!

*October Show and Tell*



Joe Dahl-  
Square Bowls



David Fleisig-  
Resined Pieces



Vern Stovall-Rustic  
Urn & Offset Bowl



Gary Bingham-  
Painted Bowl



Michael Hackett-  
Bowl



Jean-Louis Meynier-  
Texas Ebony Bowl



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*October Show and Tell  
Cont.*



Steve Griswold-  
Hollow Form



Dave Nelson-  
Cups & Bowls



Harvey Klein-  
Ornaments



Hugh Bevan-Thomas-  
Teapot



Bob Nolan-  
Birdhouse & Clock





# Anatomy of a Cone: Pens With a Sense of Humor

Rick O’Ryan

An egg, a top, or a finial can nicely display the beauty inside a cone. Turn a cone, leave it fat, add pen hardware, and the result is pens that beg to be picked up, examined, and used. A smile appears as the pen scribbles a few words. Some people laugh outright. One or two of the designs are easier to write with than others, but they all elicit humor.

Eldarica pine (also known as Afghan or Mondale pine) is plentiful where I live in New Mexico, so those were the first to end up on my shop floor when they disintegrated as I attempted to turn them. Discussions with a turner in the Netherlands led to an understanding of the characteristics of closed cones and the difficulties associated with finding not-yet-opened cones, which are usually still attached farther up on a tree. The closed cone has not released its seeds, so the tree has not yet cast it loose. Sometimes an open dry cone can be reclosed by soaking it in water.

While exploring Eldarica cones, I found an eBay store that sold cones from California trees—some native like Coulter, some introduced like Chir. Coulters and sugar pines had caught my attention years ago because of their size. I ordered a couple boxes and explored the differences between various species. A few trips into the New Mexico forest and I returned with limber pinecones.

## Layers of beauty

Inside cones with large central cores, I found layers of beauty and character that changed with the distance from the center and often bent axis of the cone. This led to an exploration of which species would work well for various pen kits. The farther from the axis, the more character the cone contained; I looked for pen kits that would support larger-diameter and longer wood barrels. My pens got fatter and smiles grew more frequent. I was encouraged to see how fat I could make a pen—out there somewhere was a hand that could grasp it perfectly.

Closer to the center axis, at the area where the scales of the cone begin to develop, the characteristics lend themselves to being displayed in smaller-diameter objects. In the cones of many species, there is a core of brown, nondescript MDF-like material. Toward the outside of this material, the base of the scale starts. Outside this core is often a thin white layer of harder woody material. As the base of the scale extends through the white layer, it becomes more defined and distinct. Outside the white layer, there is often another nondescript brown layer within which the base of the scale begins to differentiate into light-colored woody strands.

Species vary in character at the base of the scale as it grows out beyond the white woody layer. In Chir pines, the look resembles a horseshoe. In Jeffrey pine, it appears



Rectangular Snip

Included with a mostly closed Coulter cone hollow form is a pen from an opened Coulter cone. The vessel shows the scale character near the outside of the cone, and the magnetic vertex pen shows the character at the base of the scales.

like a cloverleaf or clubs from playing cards. In Coulter pine, the base leaves the white layer as a circle of white woody material with a brown center. The circle soon breaks on the side facing the stem of the cone and flattens considerably, resembling a bear claw as it separates into the strands that hold the scale material together.

The complex and loose characteristics of cones require one to use copious quantities of cyanoacrylate (CA) glue to stabilize the cone for turning. Several times I have had reactions to the CA fumes. It is imperative to have a well-ventilated shop space and stand upwind from any airflow. Currently, I am experimenting with stabilizing by pulling a vacuum on cones soaking in resin.

Enjoy the anatomy of various kinds of cones. A fat cone pen may materialize in your shop. They make people smile. ■

*Rick O’Ryan has been a member of the AAW since the late 1980s and a woodturner since the early 1960s. More of Rick’s work can be seen at [woodsongs.net](http://woodsongs.net).*

*Continued on next page*





Go Ask Alice is a closed Coulter cone and Cholla. This is what came of a cone vessel breaking up during hollowing. A partially turned Cholla base with carved stem ties the pieces of the cone together.



The long leaf pine from South Carolina has a smaller core area than the Chir, Jeffrey, and Coulter, and hence does not make a large-diameter object. There is very little material outside the white woody layer, making it more evident.



A Coulter cone breaks up during turning.



Eldarica closed cone, featuring the scales at the base of the cone.



Open Coulter cones. The cone layers seen in the pen can be correlated with the cone section on the left.



Very papery on the outside and ready to crumble at a moment's notice, the Deodar Cedar cone (*Cedrus deodara*) does have some woody material in it, but the lack of structural integrity requires CA glue to be applied early on. The pattern made by the stabilized paper scales is lovely.



The cross section of the cones at the clicker end shows the MDF-like core, the white woody layer around the core, and the MDF-like material wrapping around that. The base of the scales develops at the intersection of the inner core and the inside surface of the white woody layer. The darker color of the cone on the right appears to be from a cone that had weathered longer on the ground.



The structure of Eldarica cones resembles the long leaf, but the cones are smaller. The closed cone is a fairly tight structure; in some cases, it can be turned to display the outermost character of this cone (as seen on the pen on the right). Also evident in this pen is the beautiful cross section at the base of the cone. The two on the left were made from open cones and feature the seeds (Eldarica pine nuts).



The scales near the base of the cone, to the left, show the side strands that hold the scale together. As one goes out on the cone to the tip, the strands are shown in cross section.



Three pens made from open Jeffrey cones, which usually exhibit a wonderful playing-card club pattern in cross section of the scale near the base.



Each of these pens was made from an open Chir cone similar to the cut cone to the right. The smaller closed cone at the left shows the seed area that presents turning challenges.

*Article courtesy of AAW*



**AAW**  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF WOODTURNERS

### Want to build your woodturning skills?

The American Association of Woodturners (AAW) strives to deliver the publications and services that our members need to grow, connect, explore, and thrive in the areas of woodturning that are important to them. With nearly 16,000+ members and 360+ chapters internationally, AAW's many resources, including our award-winning *American Woodturner* journal, help our members to learn, create, and connect.



Copy and paste link below to view/download a list of publications and services available to full/paid AAW members:

<https://www.woodturner.org/page/MemberBenefits>

By signing up for a complimentary Guest membership, you can have limited access to a sampling of AAW resources for a full **60 days**. You'll be able to explore what the AAW has to offer, kick our tires, and hopefully decide to become a full-fledged, paid AAW member to benefit from everything the AAW has to offer.



**Raleigh 2019**

**AAW** | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF WOODTURNERS



## 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/](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.

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