



Vern Stovall
December Demonstrator

Our demonstrator for the December meeting will be no other than one of our great members, Vern Stovall. Vern not only does a lot for the club, and for the woodturning program at Pleasant Hill Adult Ed., he is an accomplished turner.

Vern has long been interested in how to apply stitching to forms, and how to do so in a safe manner. Over the years Vern has experimented with various jigs and forms, and has developed a method which allows a flexible and safe way to stitch vessels, bowls, and many other objects.

We can look forward to an informative and interesting demonstration on stitching.

Bio:

About 15 years ago I took my first woodturning class from Jim Rodgers. I really got interested after the bowls class. But even then, I was not interested in just making regular shaped bowls. I wanted to turn unusual shapes. I looked in turning magazines and on the internet, to find what others have created, even if it is not in wood. I no longer ask if I can make something. I ask "How would I make it? How much time would it take and what tools or fixtures do I need?" When I watched people show how they stitched cracks using a biscuit jointer, I knew there must be a safer way. After figuring that out, I thought about how I could use the same tool to make decorative elements.





BAY AREA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION
LOCAL CHAPTER AAW

Club Meetings

Club Meetings-

Meetings are generally held on the 2nd Saturday of each month. We meet in person. Meetings are held at the PHEC Woodturning Center at 1 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill, CA. The doors open at 8:30am. The meeting start time is 9:00am. See our website at bayareawoodturners.org for more information.

Guests are welcome to attend in person by request to: membership@bayareawoodturners.org.

See bayareawoodturners.org for club information.

BAWA Officers Meeting -

The Association's officer meetings are held each month. Contact Steve Griswold at: president@bayareawoodturners.org for more information.

2023-24 Event Schedule

December 2nd	Craft Sale 9:30-3:30 Mount Diablo Adult Ed Woodturning Center, Rm 108
December 9th	Vern Stovall Stitching Cracks 8:30AM-12:00PM
January 2nd	Beneath the Bark BAWA Member Showcase Orinda Library Gallery
January 13th	BAWA Holiday Party 10:00AM Walnut Creek Elks Lodge

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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November Turn-a-Thon



The November turn-a-thon was an incredible success. The goal was to make a number of different items for the December arts and crafts sale on the 2nd of December. A shout-out to Joel Albert, who took the project on with less than a month's notice. Joel outlined to different things to be made, secured the kits and wood, but, most importantly, ensured there were plenty of people there to add support.

The day of the turn-a-thon saw pretty much every lathe in use. There was lots of shavings flying everywhere. People were turning projects, bantering with each other, and overall adding to the comradere the club is known for. It's club meetings like this, and the July turn-for-troops, which give us the opportunity to enjoy each others company for the day.

The day saw a lot of projects completed. Bottle stoppers, seam rippers, pin cushions, gnomes, acorns, and more. A number of members brought donations. Claudia worked to sort the donations and price them for the sale. For the items that needed some additional attention, Joel scheduled follow-up sessions and solicited volunteers to help get them ready for the craft show.

What a great event. If you did not make this years turn-a-thon, plan on making it next year.



Double dose of donuts



Extension magnets



Rick Nelson



Shaping the top

Gnome set-up



Pin cushion set-up



Drilling



Cutting corners



Christmas tree



Turning



Turning



Texturing



Dave Bentley recording



A plethora of bowls



Coaching



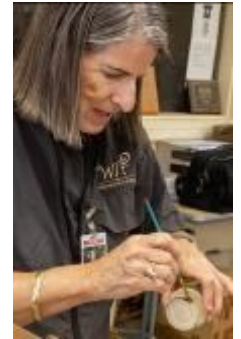
Peter Travis



Coloring set-up



Another plethora of bowls



Anna Duncan coloring



Drilling



Tom Tovera



Claudia Foster painting



Roberta Zorynski



And, of course, cleaning up

Many thanks to **all** of the turners who made this project so successful.

Feel free to visit the Craft Sale on December 2nd.(details below)




OPEN HOUSE
Art & Craft Sale

Join us for our Annual Event!

Great handcrafted gifts - Visit open classrooms

Meet instructors - Chat with students at work

Demonstrations - Drawings for class tuition credits

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023
9:30 am - 3:30 pm



Pleasant Hill Education Center
Mt. Diablo Adult Education
One Sierra Barbara Road
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(925) 937-4530



From Oak Park Boulevard turn at the signal light by the library & follow the signs.



Holiday Party, 2024



Our annual BAWA Holiday Party will be held on January 13, 2024 at The Elks Lodge in Walnut Creek...the same venue as last year! You'll be able to purchase tickets in advance on our website or you can buy them at the door. We'll email more information soon on cost and how and when to purchase tickets. As always, family and friends are welcome...actually, they're encouraged!

As in the past, we'll hold a silent auction, have a raffle, and bring lots of great wood for you to bid on! We also have brand new wood turning tools, a pyrography kit, pen blanks, pen kits, woodworking supplies, certificates from your favorite vendors, private lessons with BAWA instructors, wine and lots of other items, so bring cash, check or credit card and bid early and often!

Will there be food? Does camphor stink up your shop?! This year's event will be catered, once again, by La Pinata in Concord! They did a great job and were a big hit last year, so bring your appetites!

Oh, and don't forget to bring some turnings to display in the instant gallery! We encourage you to show up to five of your creations! (If you have more than five, bring those too!) This is an informal display, so we won't put you on the spot and make you talk about them. Whether you're a first time turner, a grizzled veteran or somewhere in between, your work is important to this club...we want to see what you've been doing and how you're progressing, so bring that/those creations for all to enjoy!

In the past, some members have wanted to contribute items to the club to be auctioned off at the party. If you want to donate, please email Larry at larrybattiwoodturning@gmail.com, and we'll arrange a hand off.

This event is a big hit every year and a great way to get to know your fellow members better, so we hope to see you all there!

Wishing you all a happy and healthy holiday season!!!

2023 Holiday Party



Jean-Louis Meynier & Jim Rodgers



Bucket Raffle



Drawing raffle winner



Playing games



Bidding on silent auction



Tons of wood in silent auction



Silent auction



Setting tables



Centerpiece

President's Letter

December 2023



"Coming Soon!" – Two Exhibitions That Include BAWA Members' Woodturnings

As I have delved into woodturning these past ten years, one of the things I most enjoy is seeing woodturning exhibitions, and especially exhibitions that include work by BAWA members. So I am excited about two shows, one that is already up and the other starting in January:

Artistry in Wood – Ongoing through January 7 at the Museum of Sonoma County in Santa Rosa. This annual exhibit is presented by the Sonoma County Woodworkers Association in concert with the Museum of Sonoma County. Staged every year since 1982, it is recognized as one of the premier fine woodworking shows in North America. The show covers all sorts of woodwork, from surfboards to furniture to musical instruments to woodturnings, including pieces by several BAWA members, and I am very pleased to say that our very own John Cobb was recognized with an Award of Excellence for his gorgeous large hollowform made of figured California bay laurel. *Congratulations John Cobb!*

Beneath the Bark – From January 2 through February 1 at the Orinda Library Gallery.

The show will be exclusively pieces created by BAWA members showcasing the beauty or idiosyncratic nature of a specific piece of wood, such as striking figure, bark inclusions, voids or hollows in the wood, etc. Don't miss it!

And a quick reminder on this topic: If you have a piece in a show, know someone else who does, or even if you are having an open house or open workshop where we can see your work, please remember to pass the word so that information can be included in our BAWA newsletter!

Happy holidays,
Steve



"That sliver has really taken root. You'll need to see an arborist."



"Looks like you've got carpenter ants."

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

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

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.





BAWA NEWS & NOTES



2024 BAWA Board of Directors



Steve Griswold
President



Bob Ackley
Vice President



Rick Dietrich
Secretary



Rick Nelson
Treasurer



Larry Batti
At Large

December 2023 Membership News By Anna Duncan

For those that haven't yet renewed your BAWA membership for 2024...now is the time! Only about 40% of our current membership have renewed, so chances are you need to visit the website <https://www.bayareawoodturners.org/> ASAP to renew.



If you'd rather not renew on the website, you can;
send a \$60 check to our treasurer, Rick Nelson, 1584 Webb Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94595, or pay in person \$60 cash or check at our December 9th BAWA meeting

We'd really like to be finished with renewals by the end of the year, so I encourage you all to renew ASAP.

If you have any issues with renewal, please contact me at membership@bayareawoodturners.org.

Best,

Anna Duncan



Pyrography decorates poplar ball

by Janice Levi

I am a fan of simplicity in the finial (which I think should complement the globe) while making the globe the primary feature of the overall ornament. This globe is made of poplar while the finials are African blackwood. I often choose the somewhat soft poplar if my plan is to use pyrography to enhance the globe. Following are a few of the steps:

Turn the globe approximately 2" (5cm) in diameter with a 1/2" (12mm) hole drilled all the way through.

Loosely dividing into thirds, the bottom finial will be about 4" (10cm) long with a 1/2" (12mm) tenon. I go further and divide the finial itself into thirds with the bottom two-thirds being fairly void of design while the top one-third flows out to allow the eye to be drawn into the globe.

The top finial is about 1" (2.5cm) in height and the turned elements will be similar in design to the elements in the lower finial.

This particular ornament is a study in black and white—no color. All the woodburned surfaces were accomplished by varying the temperature of the burner. The embellishment was applied before gluing the finials to the ornament.

I drew the design onto the globe in pencil. I do occasionally use patterns that are available online and in woodburning books but I usually prefer to draw straight onto the wood. I always work on raw wood sanded to 320 or 400 grit.



Using a ball writing tip, I outline the major elements. To give depth to the designs, I vary the temperature of the woodburner to simulate highlights and shadow.

With all the major elements burned, I use the same ball tip to stipple the background dark black.

After burning and assembly, I apply a spray finish (usually acrylic) to the entire ornament.

Janice Levi discusses finial design in the October 2019 issue of American Woodturner. She is a frequent demonstrator and teacher, janicelevi.com. □

Chain finial makes quick ornaments

by John Lucas

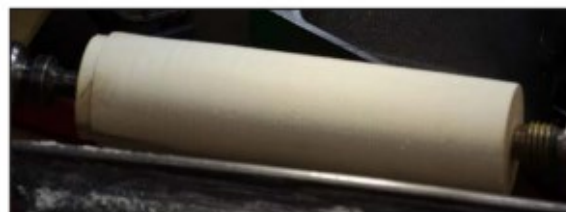


I make a lot of ornaments. I donate many of them to our club to raise money for local charities. I've done a lot of hollowed spheres with finials and a lot of single-piece ornaments. I was looking for something that would be very quick to make but was a step above a simple solid ball, and would sell for a few dollars more. Finials are always slow to make, but what about using chain instead of wood? It worked great, they are very popular, and sell fast.

1. Roughing the blank — Start with a 6" (15cm) piece of wood about 1-1/2" to 2" (5cm) in diameter. If I'm going to do a lot of coloring I use woods that don't have a strong grain pattern, and light-colored woods like holly. I start between centers and turn it round, and then cut a tenon to fit the scroll chuck.

2. Turning the shape — Put it in the chuck and simply turn a shape. Since these are so fast to make and do not require hollowing, I play with the shapes a lot. You can really explore one shape and try to nail the perfect curve.

3. Drilling for chain — Leave the upper portion fairly thick but turn the bottom end to a point. Then I use the skew on its side to cut a starter hole for the drill. I bore about 1/2" (12mm) deep with a 7/64" bit, which fits my chain. Now I sand the piece to prepare it for texturing.



1. Roughing the blank



2. Turning the shape



3. Drilling for chain

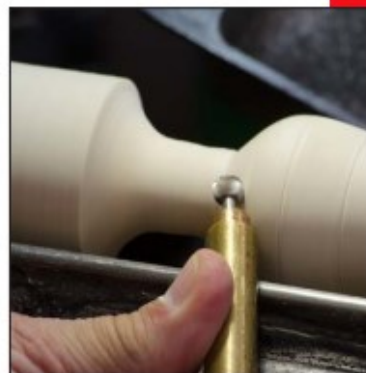
PROJECT: Ornament with chain finial



4. Texturing tool



5. Mini spiral tool



6. Elf-type tool

4, 5, 6. Texturing tools

I think the ornaments look best with just one or two textured bands. I use the Sorby texturing tool, the mini Sorby with a spiraling cutter, the Henry Taylor Elf, and my shopmade chatter tool.

7. Coloring — I like to color the texture to make it stand out, and the colors are brighter when applied over a finish. Finishes applied on top dull the colors, and may cause the colors to run. So I apply a friction finish now, before coloring. I use Hut Pen Polish.

I like Tombow or Calligraphy brand markers, but Sharpies also work. Ideally you want archival inks so the colors won't fade.

8. Crisp lines — To get really crisp lines I prefer to use a paintbrush and calligraphy inks. This came from my early archery arrow-making days. The calligraphy ink comes already mixed to the right consistency. It's easy to make narrow or wide bands of color with crisp edges using this technique. Just dip the brush in the ink and gently touch

the turning while it's spinning at a slow speed. It's almost magical and it makes a nice colored ring.

9. Turning the finial

After texturing and painting it is time to finish turning the top of the ornament. I turn it down fairly small and then bring up the tailstock to just barely touch the drilled hole. This extra support lets me sand and polish aggressively. Then I gently cut off the ornament and polish the last bit on top.



7. Coloring



8. Crisp lines



9. Turning the finial

PROJECT: Ornament with chain finial



10. Wooden bangle

10. Wooden bangle

Crosses are popular at Christmas, but sometimes I make a wooden bangle, rather than store-bought jewelry, using the scrap left on the lathe. Start by drilling the chain hole. Then turn the shape you want, sand it and cut it off.

Now to apply polish, I mount the drill chuck in the headstock with a broken 7/64" bit as a mandrel. This is a very short drill, it won't bend under pressure. Mount the small top finial on the drill bit and apply friction polish. It takes a gentle touch to keep the bangle from stalling but it's doable. If the friction polish is too challenging try a CA finish.

11. Stiffening the chain

It can be very frustrating to get the chain in the hole. Reminds me of an old joke, the city man is driving down the road and sees a country man dragging a chain, so he asks, "Why are you dragging that chain?" The country man says, "Have you ever tried to push one of



11. Stiffening the chain

these things?" The solution is to make about 1/4" to 3/8" (6-10mm) of the chain rigid, using medium CA. Just start it on the chain and drag the drop on down. Then spray with CA accelerator and let dry.

Now you have a stiff chain that goes in the hole very easily, and if a ball of glue interferes, just squeeze it with pliers. Once you know it fits, apply a few drops of CA in the hole and push the chain in. Let it dry.

12. Add the bangle

Attach whatever bangle you want to the free end of the chain. You may need to buy some jump rings, or split rings, to attach a jewelry piece. For the top I use eye pins that are in the jewelry-making section of the craft shop. I cut them to length and drill the proper size hole using my Dremel. Then simply glue them in with medium CA.

That's all there is to it. These are so fun to make. I made ten of them yesterday while



12 . Add the bangle

preparing this article. As the day progressed I got faster, the last one took me only 15 minutes. So if I were selling them they would be quite profitable. I will be making many more to contribute to our tree. I hope you will too.

John Lucas is a retired photographer living in Cookeville, TN. He has been turning wood for 35 years; his favorite items are hand mirrors and Christmas ornaments. John is a frequent contributor to Woodturning FUNDamentals.

Continued on following page

Tips

Turning “hat” blocks shavings

I needed a hat that would help keep shavings out of my hair and off my neck while I turn. Of course, it would have to fit under my faceshield,



too. Shown here is an idea that has worked very well for me (*Photo 1*), a thin “hat” fashioned from a tee shirt.

I use an extra-large, or double-extra-large tee shirt for the size of my head (7¼”, or 18cm). Lay out cut lines similar to those shown in *Photo 2*, then cut along those lines, leaving the arm seam on the hat side. Sew the arm opening closed, and your new turning hat is ready for action.

—Terry Sharp, California

Air hose hanger

I often use compressed air while turning and naturally wanted to have the hose and blow gun within reach, yet stored safely out of the way. I decided to mount a magnetic cup hook to the headstock of my



lathe and hang the blow gun from it. I found that the hook had a rather weak, rubberized magnet that would not support the weight of the blow gun and hose, so I glued an additional rare earth magnet in the cup hook base. My air gun is now always within easy reach.

—John Tarpley, Tennessee

Share your turning ideas!

If we publish your tip, we’ll pay you \$35. Email your tips along with relevant photos or illustrations to editor@woodturner.org.
—Joshua Friend, Editor

Spring-clip hanger holds printed articles

With my recent retirement, I have more time to enjoy turning and exploring new ideas, projects, and designs. With journal articles, project ideas, and tips online, I find myself browsing AAW’s website and downloading useful information. I needed to be able to hang the reprinted project ideas close to my lathe but keep them portable enough to move around my shop. My solution: a clothes hanger with built-in spring clips.

—Bill Straff, Florida



Chuck extension grips

I’ve recently begun turning bowls using a tenon, rather than a recess, to hold the bowl for hollowing the inside. To remove the tenon and finish turning the foot, I reverse-mount the bowl in Cole jaws. However, some bowl shapes are difficult or impossible to adequately grip using the standard buttons provided with the jaws. To solve the problem, I made some extended grips using parts from my local hardware store (*Photo 1*).

Photo 2 shows the hardware used to make two sizes of extension grips. The parts include the following:

- 8 hex-head flange bolts with threads matching the Cole jaws (or the large jaws you are using). Customize the length of these bolts for your holding applications.
- Fuel hose to fit over the bolts (I used ¼”, or 6mm, inside-diameter hose).
- Braided vinyl tubing for the top pads (I used ½” outside-diameter, ¼” inside-diameter).

—Ken Nelsen, Missouri

