

February 23, 2024

From Dale Larson, via WVV President Larry Curry

We had an AAW symposium committee meeting Feb 20th. We are three months from the symposium here in Portland. The registration numbers are looking very good. There should be a good turnout. There are a great bunch of demonstrators and variety of topics being covered. The demonstration schedule is done and is being polished up. It should be posted on the AAW website shortly. I know some members have been waiting to look at the schedule before committing where to volunteer during the symposium. I know from past symposiums it simply takes a lot of volunteer help to make the symposium a success. If everyone helps a little, the work gets done.

Signing up to volunteer is easy. Go to the AAW website <https://www.woodturner.org/> and click on the symposium logo. Then scroll down and click on volunteer, then "Sign Up" . It will take you to Sign Up Genius where all the committees are listed. See where you are interested and sign up.

There are a couple of areas we could use some help on. Videographers. This is the one area of volunteer help that comes with a free registration. If you have experience as a videographer and are interested contact Tom Lawson at morningstar_family@yahoo.com. Tom is the national lead on videographers and Steve Walgrave is the local lead.

The Youth turning room is a great place to help young turners get some time on the lathe. It takes a lot of hands to help on each lathe. The reward is that it brings a big smile to these young faces. Larry Curry is the local lead. You can go directly to Sign Up Genius or contact Larry at lgcurry@aol.com.

If your spouse will be at the symposium we have a couple of areas that they can help with if they like keeping busy. If your spouse is craft oriented, we have a space for spouses to meet and work on craft projects. They can help organize projects or just be a good host to out of town spouses. The AAW merchandise booth sells AAW tshirts, books and the like. We could use some help there.

From personal experience I can tell you that volunteering at the AAW symposiums over the past 17 years has changed my life. I now have friends all over the country and around the world. Volunteering brings you into contact with some wonderful and talented turners. You will develop life long friends. And these contacts can pay off for your chapter. You find out which demonstrators like to travel and it gives you a chance to ask them to come to your chapter.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at woodbowl@frontier.com

Dale Larson