

# The Burl

A monthly newsletter for the  
**Willamette Valley Woodturners**

e-mail: [wwturners@gmail.com](mailto:wwturners@gmail.com)

We are also on Facebook



Member chapter

Volume 26, Issue 7

A non-profit/501(c)(3) corporation

July, 2022



**Next Meeting: 6:30-8:30 PM, July 14, 2022  
Salem 50+ Center**

## President's Message July, 2022

Hello Willamette Valley Woodturners!

Nice to be seeing the sun again; hopefully we can avoid another burning summer and just enjoy it!

As mentioned in the last Burl, the recognition of the club's existence is now at 25 years. And in celebration of that, we would like as many Honored Life members and past officers to join the meeting in August. As you may note, Walt Thies is the presenter that night and I am certain there are members of the club that would enjoy being there for him. But just gathering to celebrate the history with officers and members from years past should make for a fun evening.

Also mentioned in the last Burl was a note about Hybrid meetings. Thanks to Jeff Zens, we sent out a survey to get a better idea of what the members want and to confirm that the idea of spending funds on the technology is considered prudent.

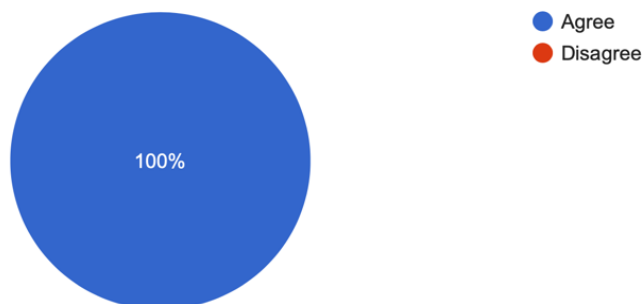
The results are quite muted by the fact that we had 24 responses compared to the membership list at 106. Jeff suggested we blast out a note to members to look in their spam boxes or whatever. But I also know a lot of folks see a survey and slam the door. I'm one of those...

In this case, we are a small club and it is a significant event to consider. This is a lot of the club's funds to be spent, and a rather technical array of gear to assemble and learn to work.

Probably obvious, but 100% of the members stated they would rather attend a meeting in person. Nice to see such unanimity.

I would rather attend Club meetings in person.

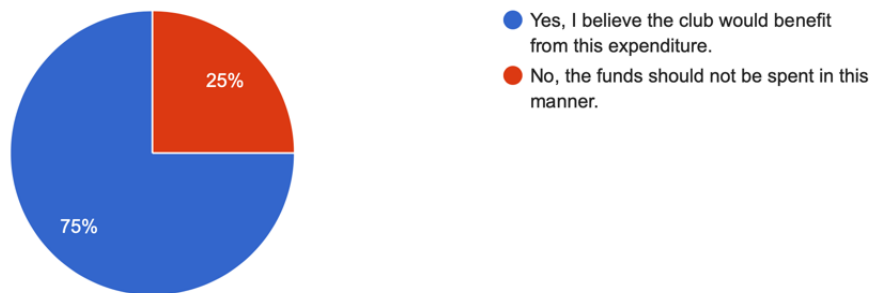
24 responses



But considering the small number of responses, this vote to spend the money seems less of an endorsement. It seems like more members should weigh in on this.

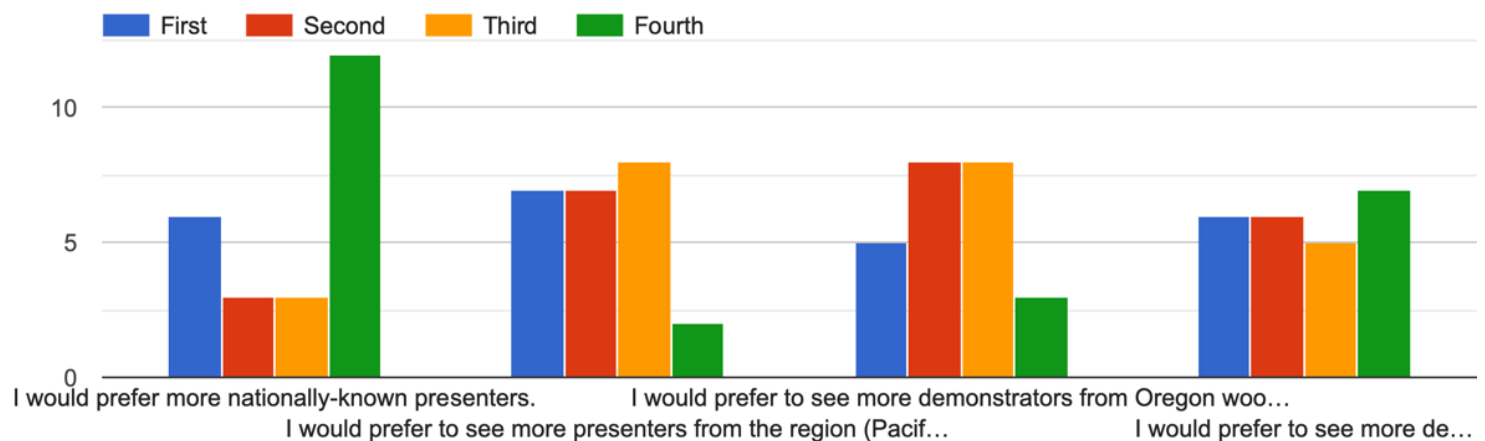
Properly equipping the Club to conduct HYBRID DEMONSTRATIONS (as described in the cover e-mail) might cost the club \$2,000 - \$3,000. Do you consider this a worthwhile investment?

24 responses



Especially since the references for what type of presenter is preferred. In the graph below, the first block regarding a preference for nationally known turners, a rather underwhelming rank of 4<sup>th</sup> was given as a preference by half of the responders. And in the second block, a strong response for regional presenters was allocated almost equally at 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. One way to interpret those two results is to assume the national presenters are low demand while regional presenters are higher demand. Getting to the Oregon Club turners in the third block there is a response indicating the less interest as a first choice but certainly members think other club members are a good second or third choice. And of course the uniform response of members about having members as presenters may be interpreted as a general acceptance but perhaps not as a first choice if other options are available.

Please tell us your preference for the kind of demonstrators we feature at monthly meetings.



Given that nationally known presenters are only going to become available in person on rare occasions due to cost AND that they are deemed a low priority, it seems the members align with the idea that it isn't really necessary to seek them out for our regular meetings. Perhaps it is best to consider that level of demonstrator as an event such as the Oregon Symposium. And perhaps even a zoom event is not desirable.

As to seeking out Regional and other Oregon Club members as presenters, many of these folks travel easily and do not require high fees to present in person. Again, the need for the technical gear is apparently not required as they present in person.

So in summary, the Hybrid Meeting idea may wilt away unless we see a grass roots effort to continue to pursue

the idea. I am open to more discussions with parties interested in the idea, and perhaps as Jeff has suggested, we need better data. And if some folks are interested in this, I will be heartily seeking a personal investment in the learning curve of how to acquire, set up, and use the equipment.

Other notes on events we are looking at for the club coming up this year are as follows:

Steam Up: Jim Devorss led the way to try to work with the members of the Steam Up groups. As it turned out, our request for another building for the Woodturners to demonstrate in was not accepted. Further, the spot previously used was being converted into more storage of equipment which also pushed us out. It seems we need to get onto their radar sooner rather than later for next year if we want to keep a fun thing going. Any volunteers to seek a spot for next year? Let Jim or I know. We now have contacts out there.

State Fair: We are on for our normal area in the spot, so plan on the event in the last week of August and the first weeks of September. I would like someone to join me in coordinating this event. I know we can count on several members who have done this every year. But in addition, I would look forward to folks who have not demonstrated, to sign up and get in on the action. Established members teaching new folks at the State Fair is actually a wonderful way to be involved. Still feel new to turning? Get into this event, it is a great place to be learning!

Empty Bowls: Still on for November. In addition to providing donations of wooden items from the lathe, there will be a demonstration area. Not sure as to actual format, but the area is tiled and there will be potters on wheels and probably woodcarvers.

And a new twist! The items do not necessarily have to be bowls. At the last event, all sorts of items were presented for sale. So, use your imagination and consider rolling pins, lidded boxes, scoops, bottle stoppers and so on. As another feature, I am linking up with some potters to learn what is involved in making wood lids for the pottery box. Anyone who wants to join on that, let me know. Should be easy.... Darcy is our lead person on this, but I can be reached as well if you have questions and or want to demonstrate.

Way way Forward-Oregon Symposium: Yup, it is on. Plan to volunteer! It's an amazing event and may be one of the few ways to see a nationally known presenter in person. March 2023.

Staff members needed for two things:

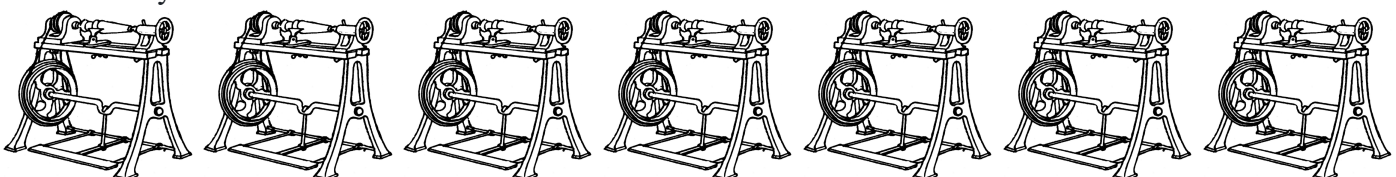
New Member orientation. It's a spot at the meetings in which the new members can reach out for answers on what's involved in being in the club.

Meeting set-up volunteers: we need help getting all the equipment set up before the regular meetings. If you can be at the Senior Center ahead of the meeting, it would be GREATLY appreciated. I am usually there by 4:30. One guy setting up requires 2 hours. Several guys setting up might be, well you can guess. Please consider getting on board on a regular basis.

This month we have Rick Rich demonstrating at the regular meeting. He is an excellent teacher for stuff many of us are weak on (think skews) and knows fundamentals like the masters.

I have seen him a couple times and he always has a good presentation. He is also a member of a club in Portland. That fits in with the above-mentioned Oregon Club woodturners.

Happy Turning!  
Marc Vickery



## Upcoming Presenters and Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Presenter/Event</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Follow-Up/Sawdust Session</u>
7/14/22	Rick Rich	Three Piece Bon-Bon Dish	<b>Yes Sawdust Session 7/17/22, 9 AM-Noon, Darcy Tataryn's Studio</b>
8/11/22	Walt Thies	Ornaments	<b>Yes Sawdust Session 8/14/22, 9 AM-Noon, Darcy Tataryn's Studio</b>
9/8/22	Kathleen Duncan	Piercing	<b>Yes Sawdust Session 9/11/22, 9 AM-Noon, Darcy Tataryn's Studio</b>
10/13/22	Tom Willing	Spheres!	TBA



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### July presenter: Rick Rich

The Bon-Bon (Candy) dish project I will be showing was inspired by a diagram in the book The Art of Wood Turning, written by William Klenke and published in 1937. After turning a few of them to the original illustration, I changed some design elements into what I thought was an attractive combination to keep the vintage look and size of the dish.

It is turned in three pieces; a base, column and bowl. The project incorporates joinery, spindle and faceplate turning. It provides an excellent opportunity to practice skills, and the finished dish makes a nice candy filled gift.

Rick

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### Notes from June club meeting:

The meeting was gavelled to order on time by **President Marc Vickery** followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a welcome to our visitors and new members.

**Oregon Symposium director Paul Hirt** updated the group on progress including some names of presenters and prepped the group of the upcoming need for volunteers emphasizing that **training will be provided**.

**Jeff Zens** announced that people willing to have pictures of projects included on the new website, but are not confident in their photography skills, can have their items professionally photographed at a Sawdust Session. If unable to come to the session the item can be taken by a member and returned at the next meeting.

Jeff said there is also a need for pics from wood gathering events.

Finally, the CraftSupplies order is nearing the \$1K threshold which triggers its sending in. Check the website Members section to see the current status.

**Marc** reviewed the hybrid meeting definition and that a survey would be forthcoming (some of the results shared in his message above).

**Show-n-Tell-Darcy Tataryn:** There were a ton of items displayed this month. Well done! Darcy went through them one by one, noting the maker, and commenting on some of the features. Thanks Darcy!

### **Presenter Gary Dahrens**

Gary gave us a ton of sensible advice, information, and demonstrated quality turning during his time. He began with these nuggets:



-Join a club. This is where you find the knowledge and folks generous enough to share it.

-Guide your cutting tools; don't push (much as you should a table saw).

-Buy the best lathe you can afford. You'll grow into it and no one says they wish they'd bought a lesser one.

-You don't need every tool or even a lot of tools to find success and satisfaction. Gary says he has 5 go to tools. He said to look for used ones and that folks getting out of the hobby by choice or life often sell quality tools with a lot of life left.

-Gary likes sharpening jigs for their repeatability.

-Using sharp tools is the most important aspect of turning. They also are what make turning fun!

-Work to find the sweet spot when cutting. This is gained by making tiny adjustments and is found faster with experience.

-SHARP TOOLS most important! Gary returned to this point often...

-For getting wood for free, keep your ears and eyes open. If you hear a saw at someone's house, stop and inquire! Also, get on the Woodgatherers list.

-However, never take more free wood than you can afford. Processing and storing is time and space consuming.

-Celebrate burl. It's hard to find and expensive, but oh so lovely.

-Spalted wood is also interesting, much more common, and is easy to make! (There are many YouTube videos on this.)

-Sanding sealer is a great product for saving punky spalted wood. Slather it on, let it sit a day or two, and you're good to go!

-Always cut out the pith when processing logs but use the quarter sawn pieces next to it.

-Try to balance the grain. Unbalanced grain makes a bowl look like it's tipping to one side.

-Design counts! Take the time to try and see the bowl in the wood. Dog dishes are not much liked (new one to me-means a thick bottom so a dog can't tip it over). Work toward even wall thickness (unless a purposeful alternative design choice is made) and work for even curves.

-Your goal for a bowl is your best work with your current skills.

-Gary likes to dry wood in cylinders as it is less prone to cracking. If he finds different colors he tries to include both in his blanks.

-Don't worry about finding the exact center when mounting the wood on the lathe. It will become round even if not perfectly centered (unless that's your thing).

Gary's first turned piece was a **bud vase** which he said was a great project for the beginner.

-Start this spindle project between centers (Gary doesn't lock tailstock quill as he knows he'll have to retighten it often as the vibration causes it to loosen needing to be advanced.)

-To find the speed, Gary speeds up the lathe until it shakes and then backs off a bit. (Make sure to check clearance by

hand turning the blank before powering up.)

-Use the spindle roughing gouge to start. Gary reminded the group the roughing gouge is NEVER to be used on a bowl for a couple reasons.

One, the pointy corner is easily caught causing all kinds of havoc including two, the thin tang will bend or break.

-Turn towards the ends.

-Tighten the tailstock.

-Move the tool rest closer.

-Turn the rough shape and a tenon.







\*\*The shoulder of the tenon is very important. It needs to allow the tops of the jaws solid contact with the wood.

-Chuck up the piece tightening both sides of the chuck (some have slight play).

-Gary then drilled a hole using a Jacobs chuck saying to make sure the hole is larger than the spindle gouge being used for hollowing.

-Gary used a spindle gouge with a swept back grind for hollowing using a scraping cut.

-Final shaping was done by cutting and shear scraping.

-Gary reminded us that sandpaper is a cutting tool.

He started at 150 and went

through the grits to 400 reminding us also not to skip grits.

-He used an oil and then buffed a wax on. Buff always with paper, not cloth, as cloth fibers can catch and can be dangerous.

-Gary uses an old kitchen knife ground down for parting off. He said it's good steel, thinner, and makes a very clean cut.



Gary then moved on to a **bottle stopper**, another good beginner project, which uses a kit you can get from any turning supply store. He said he makes these a lot and they are a fantastic, useful gift.

-When doing projects that will be repeated, find shortcuts. He uses a friction jig to hold his 2" blanks and a washer that is the same size as the stopper insert so he

doesn't have to measure.

-Add interest with various materials (Gary used a blank of bright layers that was powerful!) and coves and beads.

-As the stopper will be handled a lot, Gary used CA glue to finish. He applied a thin layer of thin CA and sanded lightly. A second coat is even more durable.

-His next layer was Triple EEE ultra shine friction polish.

-His final layer was Hut Crystal Coat (which he reminded us to shake). This coat only required a few drops and polished to a glassy shine.

**Thank you Gary** so much for presenting. While your stated purpose was to speak to the beginner, you gave every level of turner something to think about whether it was to be reminded, to think of our own variation, or to hear something for the first time. Well done, sir! And it was nice to meet Mrs. Dahrens!



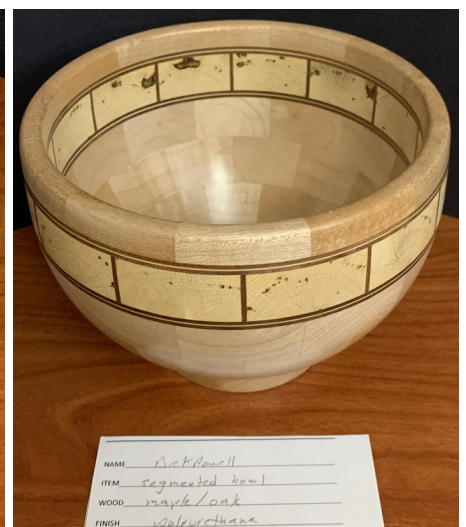
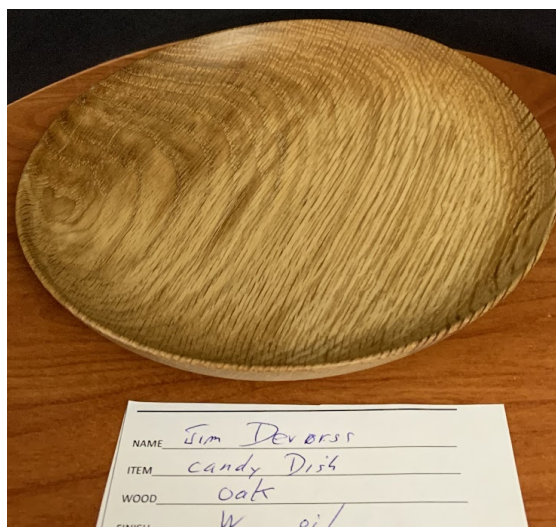
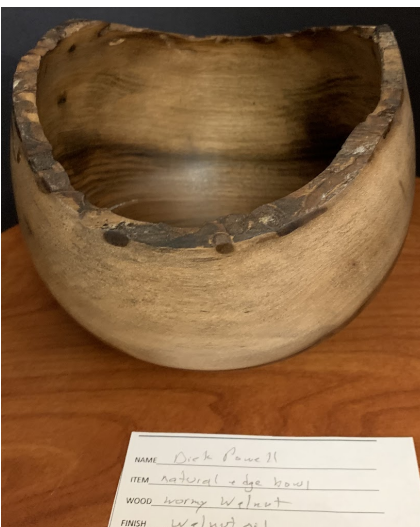
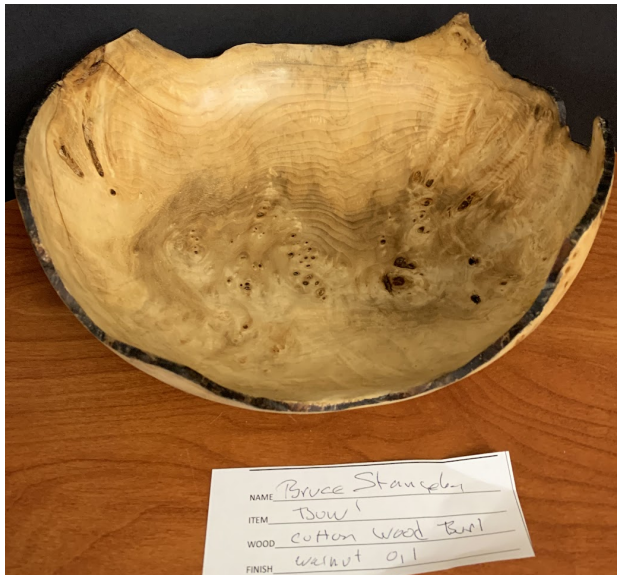
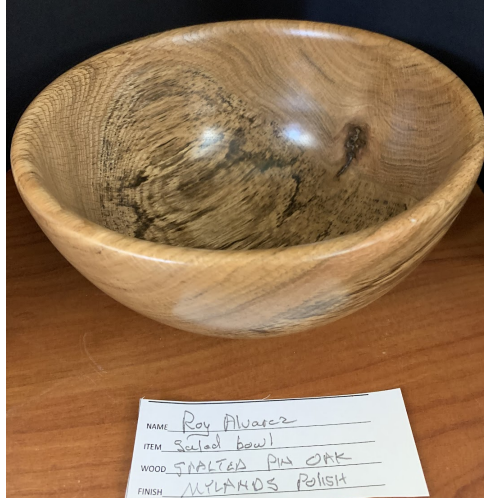
Thank you all who donated to the wood raffle!

Almost \$50 dollars were raised.

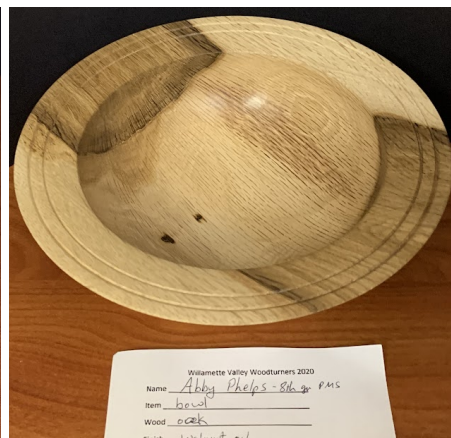
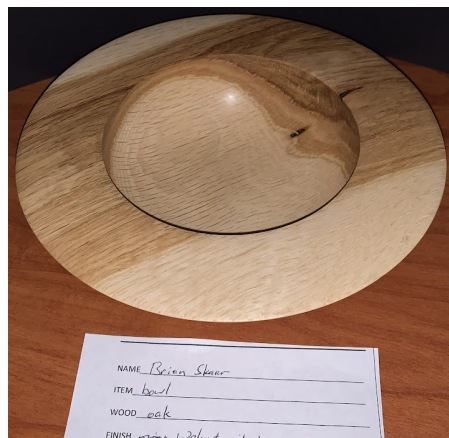
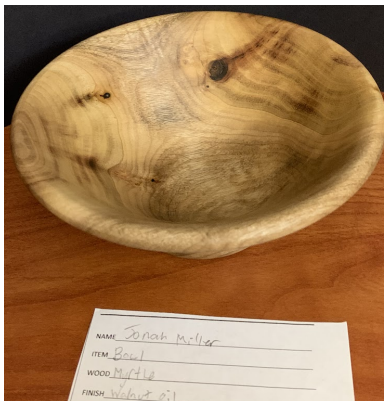


And thank you all who brought items to share. Again, our membership never ceases to amaze with the creative projects and high degree of skill (as seen below).

And finally, thank you for the clean up help. It goes very fast with the extra help.







**June Sawdust Session:** The session took place and Walt said it went well and a number of folks were interested in his copper and turquoise inlay demo. Unfortunately, I was sick and unable to attend and apologize for the lack of description or photos.

**New from Walt:** Follow-up to using CA glue and copper as a filler: Pack the fill area with copper then put a drop of CA on the wood near the copper and tease the drop over with a toothpick. Once it makes contact



then capillary action takes over and pulls it into the powder. If you drop CA on top of the powder it may pool on top and not soak through, then a piece (the crust) may pop off when you smooth it with a scraper.

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**Calling for pics and/or articles:** Got a story about the piece coming off the lathe? Willing to share pics of your lathe/shop set up? It'd be great to include some of these in the Burl!

Here are some pics of some middle school turners at my school and one excellent volunteer. If you have some pics of you turning, or helping someone turn, I'd love to include them in our publication!



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**“FREE WOOD”**

**“Huge Maple tree, 4 foot diameter slabs approximately 16” long and smaller pieces various sizes. Will need to bring your own saw. Please call if interested.”**

**Roger Dirkx. 503 743 3104**

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## Membership Rewards

**Chain Sharpening Service** from Jeff Zens: I have an electric chain sharpener and can accurately sharpen your chains and adjust depth stops for your saw chains. This service will restore the chain to “factory-new” condition. Most chains for 18" and shorter bars can be sharpened for \$10.00. Longer chains (up to 30" bars) are

\$20.00 Badly damaged chains might be a little bit more. I will also tell you if the chain has reached the end of its useful life, and will not sharpen a chain beyond that point. This price is only available for club members.

## Supplies-See Jerry Lelack at club meetings

The club purchases a few supplies in bulk and sells them to members at club cost.

\*CA superglue (\$6), black or brown superglue (\$10) accelerator (\$10).

\*Half round protractors (\$6) used to measure the angle ground on a tool

\*Depth gauges (\$5)

\*HSS 1/4" x 8" Round Tool Bits rods

\*Anchorseal (\$9/gal) and walnut oil (\$20/gal) are available through **Jeff Zens**. You will need to bring your own gallon containers; contact [Jeff](#) to make arrangements.

## Wood Gathering

Anyone who learns of a tree or log that is available to the club should notify **Randy Nichols**.

## From Terry Gerros

I am a distributor for Stick Fast CA glue, Sharpfast Sharpening systems, the Holdfast vacuum chucking system and Saburrtooth Carving bits. If you have an interest in these products, give me a call or send me an [email](#) for details.

## Club Member Discounts

- **Club Member Discounts at Craft Supply:** The club's order is processed the Monday following our Club meeting if it equals or exceeds \$1,000. Craft Supplies offers us a 10% discount **plus** free shipping on almost all items (lathes and other heavy items are excluded) and occasional additional discounts on certain other items and quantity purchases. If you order from Craft Supplies current sale items, you will receive the club discount in addition to the sale discount, making many items available at very attractive prices. For detailed instruction for ordering see the article in the **January 2022 Burl**, available on the club's website. Questions? See [Jeff Zens](#).
- Club members are registered with **Klingspor's Woodworking Shop** at [www.woodworkingshop.com](http://www.woodworkingshop.com) or 800-228-0000. They have your name and will give you a 10% discount.
- If you show your club card at checkout time to the cashier at **Woodcraft** in Tigard they will give you a 10% discount (May not apply to some machinery).
- **Exotic Wood** is offering a discount of 15% off any orders placed at: [www.exoticwoodsusa.com](http://www.exoticwoodsusa.com). (This includes sale items and free shipping on orders over \$300). Use promo code ewusaAAW
- **Gilmer Wood** now offers our club a 10% discount on purchases made there. If you haven't been to Gilmer's, it is well worth the trip to Portland, if only to make your mouth water and make you cry if you leave empty handed.

## Club happenings in our area

(Please visit the club's website listed below for additional information)

**Northwest Woodturners** (Beaverton, OR)

[www.northwestwoodturners.com](http://www.northwestwoodturners.com)

**Cascade Woodturners** (Portland, OR)

[www.cascadewoodturners.com](http://www.cascadewoodturners.com)



**Beaver State Woodturners** (Eugene, OR)

[www.beaverstatewoodturners.com](http://www.beaverstatewoodturners.com)

**Oregon Coast Woodturners** (Newport, OR)

[www.oregoncoastwoodturners.com](http://www.oregoncoastwoodturners.com)

**Southwest Washington Woodturners** (Vancouver, WA)

[www.southwestwashingtonwoodturners.com](http://www.southwestwashingtonwoodturners.com)

**South Coast Woodturners** (Coos Bay, OR)

[www.southcoastwoodturners.com](http://www.southcoastwoodturners.com)

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**The Burl** is a monthly newsletter publication of the **Willamette Valley Woodturners**.

<u><b>Executive Board</b></u>		<u><b>Non-Executive Positions</b></u>	
President	Marc Vickery	Newsletter Editor	Brian Skaar
Vice President	Larry Curry	Webmaster	Jeff Zens
Secretary	Brian Skaar	Wood Gathering	Randy Nichols
Treasurer	Henrik Åberg	Librarian	Roger Dirkx
Past President	Jeff Zens	Glue/Supply Sales	Jerry Lelack
Board Position 1	Bruce Stangeby	Steam-Up Coordinator	Jim Devorss
Board Position 2	Randy Nichols	Mentor Coordinator	Paul Hirt
		State Fair Coordinator	Marc Vickery
		Empty Bowls Coordinator	Darcy Tataryn
		Roster Editor	Henrik Åberg
		Facilities Coordinator	<b>OPEN</b>
		Video Coordinator	Marc Vickery
		CraftSupplies Order	Jeff Zens
		Beads of Courage	Mark Choitz
		New Member Coordinator	Steve Wolfenbarger

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Checks payable to: Willamette Valley Woodturners

Send changes to roster information (address, e-mail, phone#) to Henrik Åberg ([henrikeaberg@gmail.com](mailto:henrikeaberg@gmail.com))

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