

The Burl



A monthly newsletter for the
Willamette Valley Woodturners

e-mail: wwturners@gmail.com

We are also on Facebook

Member chapter

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June, 2023



Next Meeting: 6:30-8:30 PM, June 8, 2023
Salem 50+ Center

June President's Message:

Hello Willamette Valley Woodturners!

It's June and the strawberries are looking really red. Mine are still tasting not quite yet ready. But it's almost time for strawberry sundaes!

Our last meeting with Mauricio Kolenc went well. He finished one of his signature flared, narrow based, bowls within the meeting time. It was wood that was a bit on the punky side and even with that, he got a very clean finish using the large scraper on an angle. He demonstrated many times how "it is never time wasted to sharpen tools." He showed how he uses a hone to create a burr, or curl, on a scraper for very fine smoothing cuts. He also does all sharpening freehand.

And on that idea, I sincerely look forward to our next regular meeting with Nick Stagg as demonstrator. Nick will be showing techniques and science behind sharpening. I am certain he agrees with Mauricio about sharpening as a priority. As was mentioned in a note to all members over this last week, Nick suggested that members bring in their own tools and questions about sharpening. While it may be a problem if everyone shows up with tools and questions, I will consider that a good problem to have. Please come with tools and questions.

Looking forward, Brian Skaar has taken the reins to start up a new venue for the club to demonstrate at. He is coordinating the event at the Benton County Fair and we should look forward to seeing more info as soon as coordinating comes together. It's August 2nd through 5th, so mark your calendars. It's coming up QUICK!
THANKS SO MUCH Brian!

Additionally, I am happy to announce that Kip Allen has signed on to be coordinator for the Oregon State Fair. The dates on that are the last week in August and the first week in September. Get that on your calendars too! While we are still getting the details worked out, I am both grateful and excited to have the help from a person who has the good common sense to know how to get things done. Thanks So Much Kip!

So there are still things folks can step up to do as mentioned in the last Burl. I am grateful for Bill Caffey stepping up to help with meeting setup and learning camera work. And he is coming up from Philomath! Having any amount of regular help is fantastic. Thanks So Much Bill!

I also noted at the last meeting that many of our members traveling the I-5 from the southern region helped to stow all the gear and clean up the meeting room. And lo and behold, I have been negligent about recognizing that help. You guys have been staying late for a long while. And I'm sure it takes an hour or more to get home to Corvallis, Philomath and all! I must have just gotten used to it. The help is so appreciated! The list includes Brian, Dick Powell, Walt Theis, Nate Goodson, J.J. Jones and I am sure I am missing someone. THANKS SO MUCH!

Further down the road is the Empty Bowls event in November. Even if you don't have anything developed at this moment, now is the time to collect ideas and put together projects you would like to do as donations. Or make plans to volunteer! And, it's a great venue for demonstrating.

Speaking of end of the year issues, Board member terms are all termed out this year. This is a great opportunity to get on the board and do something for the club. It's not that hard and it really makes you feel like you are doing something good for a group that does so much for woodturning right here in our area.

Well, the sun is bright and the sky is blue. I need to go tend my berries and then get to turning!

Stay Sharp for Happy Turning!
Marc Vickery

Upcoming Presenters and Events

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Presenter/Event</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Follow-Up/notes</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 6/8/23 | Nick Stagg | Sharpening topics | Bring a tool or two for Nick to work his magic on! |
| 6/11/23 | Sawdust Session | As needed | 9 AM-Noonish, Darcy Tataryn's Studio Wear your nametag (if you can remember) and come for some learning, practicing, and social time! |
| 7/13/23 | Eric Lofstrom | Viking Gnome | Eric will be doing three one-day classes (Fri, Sat, Sun) after his Thursday night demo (see description below) |
| 6/11/23 | Sawdust Session | As needed | 9 AM-Noonish, Darcy Tataryn's Studio (This session will take place the same day as Eric's final class) |
| 8/10/23 | Kevin Jesequel | Hollow forms with natural openings | |

June Presenter: Nick Stagg



(From Marc's email a couple weeks ago) As many of us know, Nick has been a woodturning teacher for many years and has developed great skills in turning and of course sharpening. I recall a class being taught by an outside demonstrator at Nick's shop and one of the more experienced students was having problems with tear out on the outside of a vessel. When no one, including the demonstrator, seemed to have an answer that worked, Nick stepped up, took a gouge over to his grinder and when the fresh edge was held by Nick to the section with the tearout, it seemed to disappear, like magic.

Well, of course, it's no magic, but a great teaching moment for all of us.

For the next regular meeting, Nick has asked folks to bring their tools and their questions about sharpening to the meeting. He is, of course, proficient in any sort of

edge on any tool, but he may be leaning toward the more standard tools such as gouges and scrapers. I nearly cut my finger on one of his scrapers the last time he demonstrated for us. Glad I did not shed blood for that! Who knew a scraper could be that sharp?

So please come to the meeting JUNE 8th and bring tools!



***July Classes to be offered by Eric Lofstrom.**

****VP Larry will have sign-ups, costs, times, and location info at the June meeting.**

Friday (7/14) Class Topic: Namaste Bowls (Endgrain Bowls)

Turning an Artistic End Grain Bowl: "Namaste" Series In this session, you will learn many of the techniques I use

to create artistic, yet functional bowls using small end grain pieces of wood. Emphasis will be on tools control, techniques specific to turning end grain and discussion of form. We will also explore multiple elegant coloring & texturing embellishments I use to add depth & drama to a captivatingly simple form. After this session, you'll see any small block of plain-grained wood as a potential piece of art!



Saturday (7/15) Class Topic: Skew Skills

Skew Skills: "Making the Cuts!" In this session, you learn basic spindle turning with the skew, simple sharpening techniques used to create a razor's edge & methods to obtain an ultra-clean cut. You will experience several exercises using biomechanics to increase tool control & gain confidence at the lathe. This session will also showcase skill-building projects; the egg & my version of the finger-tip spinning top. The experience of using the skew & the lessons learned during this demo will expand your success with ALL cutting tools!

Sunday (7/16) Class Topic: Creating Characters- Make a Viking Gnome

Turning a Viking Gnome: Creating Characters Using basic spindle turning tools, this session focuses on spindle grain turning to create a small, character-filled viking. In addition to reviewing basic tool applications, attendees will learn techniques used to join multiple complementary forms to compose a unique figurine. This session will showcase what basic tools and simple embellishment techniques will allow you to do with a handful of spindle grain wood blanks. Once you learn to turn a viking, you'll be able to apply the basics to create a unique character of your own!

May Sawdust Session: And a very interesting session it was! Darcy always says come when you can and stay as long as you wish. This session fit that to a T. When I arrived not many were there, but soon more came and others left and by the end, over 20 folks had attended! Lots of projects were in the works including some intro spindle working and small bowls galore. The big Harvey in the middle though got tested by a massive piece of green myrtlewood!





At the end of the session, Darcy let us know he had quite a bit of donated wood available. Some was cut-offs of burl slabs I believe came from member Trevor T who is in the business. Below is a pic Trevor sent of a

burl he had at his business (crazy thing!!), the 3 pieces I grabbed, and a 2” sphere I cranked out from a piece. Thanks, Trevor!



May meeting notes:

President **Marc Vickery** gavelled the meeting to order at 6:30 and led us in a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. 56 people were in attendance including 4 new members who introduced themselves. Welcome to each!

Announcements:

-Marc reviewed some of the folks, workings, and benefits of the club.

-Mark introduced Darcy in a new position, that of membership coordinator, a job extricated from that of the treasurer.

-Also announced: the need for a State Fair demo coordinator (Thanks Kip!) and Empty Bowls coordinator.

-Webmaster **Jeff Zens** announced the Craftsupplies order is under \$200 (needs to hit \$1K to send)

-Jeff announced the new website is very close!

Show-n-Tell: **Gary Dahrens** took the lead this month pointing out many of the unique features of the pieces brought in and complimenting the turners for their effort and productions. Thanks Gary!



-VP **Larry Curry** announced the plan for Eric Lofstrom’s presentation and classes next month. He put out an initial sign-up sheet to gain a sense of interest (there was plenty!).



May presenter: Mauricio Kolenc

(Editor’s note: these are just a chronological list of notes I took. Mauricio did not, to my knowledge, provide step by step instructions for his method. Hopefully, these will spark some memories and help if you are trying to replicate his methods.)

- Mauricio started his talk with a bit of his history including that he was largely self taught but did pursue instruction as he moved along, eventually getting into production turning.
- His current pursuit is to make gracefully curved forms with small bases (mostly ogee). He said his current works are not utility pieces



due to their thinness and instability.

- Mauricio likes to use a gouge for roughing saying he can be more aggressive in material removal.

- As mentioned by Marc above, he prefers freehand sharpening, mostly as that was all that was available to him for many years and now he likes the speed.

- Mauricio talked about body and hand position noting the importance of the left hand being on top of gouge (vibration control) and right hand against hip (control and fatigue reasons).

- He mentioned at this point the importance of a smooth tool rest surface telling us he sands his flat daily.

- As others have done, he runs the speed up to point lathe shakes and then backs off speeding it up as he can.

- Mauricio advised us to keep the final shape in mind at all times when roughing.

- He moved to the other, sharp, wing of his gouge saying going against the grain when roughing he's found to be fine.

- Mauricio squared up the end and reminded us of the importance of a little hole at the end center for later use with the live center.

- He then turned the tenon (which is at the tailstock end of the piece).

- Next were lots of pull cuts to shape the piece.

Mauricio kept the handle very low claiming the tool on the wood was much like a skew and left a very clean cut.

- The shape left a fairly thick area above the tenon for stability for when the piece would be reversed.

- Final cuts were made after another freehand sharpening.

- He then went to his scraper which he sharpened and then used a hand held diamond file to create an even burr.

- Mauricio used this scraper at a 45° to make a single pass and then reformed the burr by hand. (Need a smooth tool rest...)

- He said he got some tear-out due to wetness of wood and that dry wood doesn't tear as much.

- However, he does like to turn wet wood to play with the movement! He talked about roughing his pieces and when final turning would leave the undulating top shape.

Inside

- During break, Mauricio reversed and mounted the piece in a chuck.

- He started by truing the face and hollowing from the center out. (I noted that the angle of his grind was between a 40° and flatter "bottom" feeder angle.)

- Mauricio was going for about 1/4" thick walls.

- He used his fingers or the palm of his left hand against the outside of the





bowl as he cut saying this helped with the vibration and to gauge the thickness.

- Mauricio moved down the piece an inch at a time, gaining final thickness before going deeper.
- He also pointed out how he clamps the gouge under his arm to help with vibration.
- He would use both hands to check the wall thickness saying he is often wrong and mostly uses calipers.
- Mauricio uses power sanding to 220, followed by hand sanding to 600, and finish sands with tung oil to 1000.

Foot

- Mauricio roughed another cylinder with a tenon and mounted this in the chuck.



- He then turned it to roughly match the inside of his piece to make a jam chuck.
- He then placed the piece on the jam chuck and brought the live center up to turn the foot.
- He blended in the base curve often tapping on the piece to gauge the thickness.
- Finally, he sanded and cut the holding wood to a tiny nub which he cut off by hand off the lathe.

Thank you Mauricio! We laughed when you said you'd not seen so many turners in one space thinking wait until you get to Portland and later the AAW symposium! You were charming and skilled and it was



an enjoyable demonstration indeed!





Gallery : Well, I did myself no favors being in a bit of a rush taking photos of the wonderful pieces in that the beautiful gloss of the pieces by Dick and Jeff picked up a ridiculous reflection of their tags. Argh. Still amazing though! The piece by Walt is huge and has so many interesting features from the spalting to the turquoise to the feet. Nice. And the pyrography by Eling and live edge by Jonah and duck call and CNC work... Good stuff!



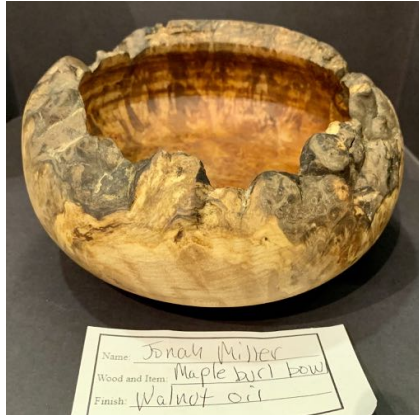
Willamette Valley Woodturners
Instant Gallery
Date 5-25-23
Item dandelion seeds
Wood dandelion in resin on maple burl
Finish Waterlox
Comments from the back of a VVV member's pick-up
Name Dick Powell



Willamette Valley Woodturners
Instant Gallery
Date 5-25-23
Item cactus
Wood cactus in resin on maple burl
Finish Waterlox
Comments with help from my daughter
wood salvaged from Olympic Natl Park trail
Name Dick Powell



Name Jeff Wood
Wood and Inl: maple burl
Finish Lengua



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 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. (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

Cascade Woodturners (Portland, OR)

www.cascadewoodturners.com

Beaver State Woodturners (Eugene, OR)

www.beaverstatewoodturners.com

Oregon Coast Woodturners (Newport, OR)

www.oregoncoastwoodturners.com

Southwest Washington Woodturners (Vancouver, WA)

www.southwestwashingtonwoodturners.com

South Coast Woodturners (Coos Bay, OR)

www.southcoastwoodturners.com

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

| <u>Executive Board</u> | | <u>Non-Executive Positions</u> | |
|------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| President | Marc Vickery | Newsletter Editor | Brian Skaar |
| Vice President | Larry Curry | Webmaster | Jeff Zens |
| Secretary | Brian Skaar | Wood Gathering | Randy Nichols |
| Treasurer | Dick Powell | 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 | Dick Powell |
| | | Facilities Coordinator | OPEN |
| | | Video Coordinator | Marc Vickery |
| | | CraftSupplies Order | Jeff Zens |
| | | Beads of Courage | Mark Choitz |
| | | Membership Director | Darcy Tataryn |

Send dues & other financial matters to:

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Send changes to roster information (address, e-mail, phone#) to Dick Powell (rlpowellsaf@gmail.com)

Send all other club correspondence to the clubs official address:

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