

The Burl

A monthly newsletter for the
Willamette Valley Woodturners
e-mail: vwturners@gmail.com
We are also on Facebook



Member chapter

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

April, 2024

**Next Meeting: 6:30-8:30 PM, April 11, 2024
Salem 50+ Center**



April President's Message:

We are just over a month away from the International AAW Symposium in Portland! Please check out the website at <https://www.aawsymposium.org/> where you can find a ton of info including ways to help out. More info will be shared at this month's meeting.

Forwarded from Dale Larson:

AAW Lathe raffle proceeds. I have just confirmed with the office that the proceeds from the Powermatic and Jet lathe raffle here at the Portland AAW symposium May 23-26 will be shared equally amongst the four local chapters, Cascade, Northwest, SW Washington and **Willamette Valley**. Our local lead for the raffle is Steve Newberry. Steve is looking for volunteers to help sell raffle tickets. If members from the four chapters all step in and help we could raise a nice amount for our chapters. You can sign up on the AAW website-Symposium-volunteer or contact Steve at lanewb1@aol.com

The registration numbers for the symposium are looking very good. It should be a great event. Hopefully you made the April 5th cut off date for early registration saving \$40. Take that extra \$40 and put a down payment on a new lathe in the vendor show!

Dale

Year of Challenges from Chuck Fell

Dec. Holiday ornament

Jan. Bowl with piercing/president's gavel

Feb. Vase with any type of enhancements

Mar. Lidded Box

April Goblet

May Prep for Symposium

June Sphere

July Spinning top

Aug. Calabash Bowl

Sept. Wing Vessel

Oct. Anything with 3 woods

Nov. Platter or Plate

Note: Enhance any project as you wish (ex. texturing, coloring, burning, piercing, etc)

Upcoming Presenters and Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Presenter/Event</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Follow-Up/notes</u>
4/11/24	Reed Gray	Coring	Coring is a way to use long, heavy duty cutters to cut out the inside of a piece of wood allowing you to make multiple bowls from one piece of wood rather than turning all that inside wood into shavings.
4/14/24	Sawdust Session	As needed	9 AM-3 PM-ish, Darcy Tataryn's Studio Wear your nametag and come learn or teach or practice or visit.
5/9/24	Rick Rich	3-Legged Stool	
6/13/24	Carl Jacobson	Brass Insert Box	



April Presenter: Reed Gray

(Editor's note) Reed was just with us in December showing us how he uses a threading jig. He is a consummate tinkerer and thinker and it shows in his mastery of tools and jigs he's made, adapted, and uses. He's very well known for his Robo Rest, tool rests, and especially his "big, ugly scrapers". His videos go back over 12 years, but he's been turning for probably close to 30 years. He will be showing us how he uses 2 bowl saving coring systems: the Oneway and McNaughton versions. Having experienced a number of his demos, we will most likely get a ton of info on their strengths and weaknesses and how he's made them work for him.

March Meeting Notes:

President **Larry Curry** gavelled the meeting to order at 6:30 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. We had an excellent showing of 55 people in the room including 3 visitors and 1 new member!

-Larry presented **Jeff Zens** his gift certificate as Member of the Quarter.

-**Jeff** thanked Larry and the board and announced that CraftsSupplies has returned their club discount back up to 13% (as well as free shipping). Also returning are some additional discounts described in the article by Jeff accessed via the Members Only section of our website under Place Group Order.

The order is placed once it reaches \$1K (which it was at and has since been completed and the new order stands at about \$200 at this writing).

-**Larry** announced Rod Rice is getting out of woodworking and has a great deal of wood to pass along and instructed us to contact him (wwwprez2024@gmail.com) for more info.

-Larry introduced **Dale Larson** to pass on more info about the Portland version of the AAW International Symposium including:

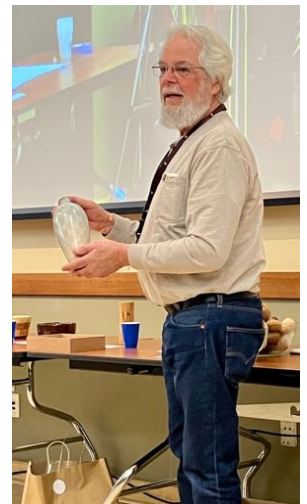
- *it is international and this is the closest it will ever be
- *he's found it to offer great learning, connections, and friendship
- *the list of presenters is amazing
- *the gallery and vender areas are free and are HUGE
- *to happen, they need help...
- *the teaching room needs helpers
- *videographers are actually paid
- *the live streamed room needs folks to move the demonstrators in and out
- *there are jobs for spouses and significant others to help with merch sales and the crafting area

*Empty Bowls will be on hand with all bowls selling for \$25. Bowl donations are appreciated

*Dale shared how he decided to volunteer back in 2007 and how it changed his life leading to travel and friendships and a stint on the AAW board!

*the AAW site is easy to navigate and the best way to sign up

Chuck took us through the amazing pieces on the **Show-n-Tell** tables including a large wooden egg collection brought in by a visitor. He started making the eggs for his father and it is now huge and well documented with species and dates! *(For some reason, I did not get a photo of it. If someone got one, please forward it to me for inclusion in the next Burl.)*





*Above: Brian Skaar, Nasahli Altursian
Below: Shelly, Mark Choitz*



*Above: Dick Powell
Below: no name, Chuck Fell, Chuck Fell, Marc Vickery*





Above: Shelly, Terry Gerros

Below: Marc Vickery, spiral pieces by Terry Gerros (note the candle stick spiral inside a spiral)



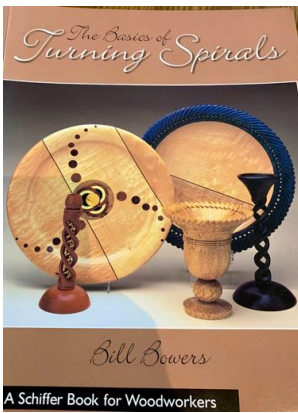
Below: Terry's goblet is approx 16" tall, the longest he said he can do without a steady rest



Presenter: Terry Gerros-Spiral Turning

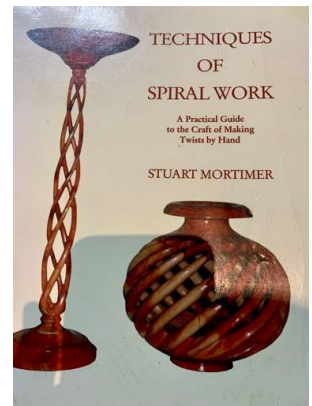
The following are some of my notes taken during the meeting. Terry mentioned there would be a lot of vocabulary and steps coming at us that would seem overwhelming, but that it would become clearer with repetition. He was spot on for me.





My notes are not exhaustive, but Terry introduced two books that are so. Of course, there are a zillion YouTube videos too...

- Terry said he learned first hand from Alan Batty and Stuart Mortimer in classes at Nick Staggs studio.
- Terry liked that it's a very old skill and how spirals can be very exact and formal or loose and varied.
- One of the books shared is by Mortimer and Terry said it goes into mathematical detail beyond precise.
- He said the book by Bill Bowers is excellent in its extensive image support.
- Terry said the layout is basically a grid on a cylinder.



- The "bine" is the spiraling bead.
- The horizontal lines (parallel to tool rest) determine the number of bines and can be odd or even, many or few.
- The vertical line spacing determines the pitch (the steepness of the bines).
- For creating a traditional pitch, the vertical lines are drawn 2x the diameter of the cylinder apart.
- The spirals can be on the surface only or go through which is an "open twist".
- Terry recommends you start with a softer wood (there is a lot of hand work) with no knots (at least to begin with).



- To lay out the horizontal lines, Terry has found the little holes made on the end of a spindle by the spur drive are useful. His creates 18 holes that can be divided numerous ways. Another way is to wrap blue tape around the spindle to get exact circumference, take it off, divide by the number of bines desired and mark.
- Terry starts his vertical lines (which create the pitch) in the middle of his spindle and works out a diameter at a time.
- Terry rarely does a full "mark out" now, but recommends you do so to learn.
- Draw a continuous diagonal line corner to corner on your grid the length of your spindle in a color.
- Use another color on each side of the first line. These define the width of your bine (I think...).



Now comes the hand work.



- Terry starts with a triangular file to get a groove started. He keeps in mind where the bine is and files into the valley.
- He then moves up in file size.
- Terry said one trick is to keep the spindle turning (which you do with your off hand on the wheel or spindle) to avoid flat spots.
- Terry showed lots of tools he's acquired or made including rasps, zesters (have to reverse them), sanding sticks with velcro glued on, and more.
- He also showed the powered methods he uses including a 2 tooth ArborTech cutter on a grinder, a Merlin grinder with a burred blade, and a micro-grinder with Sabertooth burrs.
- Terry was taught to round the bines with a small hand plane, but struggles with that and has since moved on to a concave burr bit on the micro-grinder.



-He likes the padded sand paper and uses his fingers to cradle the bines to sand them.



-Terry showed running the lathe at a very slow setting to sand. The sand paper just corkscrews up the spindle in the grooves.
 -To make an **open twist** spiral, Terry starts with a $\frac{3}{8}$ " drill (it's his longest right now). A bigger bit makes less work later depending on what you're wanting.
 -Then it's just a matter of hogging out until you're through to the space in the center.
 -A lot of "floss" style sanding has to be done with open twist spirals.
Wow. Thank you Terry! You make it seem easy which I've found most experts do. I think everyone should try a spiral piece to, if nothing else, truly appreciate the expertise and patience it takes to make them



*Above: in-progress examples of "mark outs" and spirals with different numbers of bines and pitches; rasps, zesters and sanding sticks; sandpaper for "flossing"; small rasps and burs
 Below: examples of open twists, different pitches, and zesters*





Above: intro, marking the diagonals, showing triangular files and rasps

Below: drill/rasp Terry likes for open twist spiral making, sandpapers sticks, two styles of power carvers



Above: large burr carver, valleys in progress, micro-carver with burr

Below: example of a changing pitch spiral



March Sawdust Session

Well, it was a smaller group that showed up this month due, we thought, to the glorious weather that day. Only about 15 people were there so everyone got as much time on any lathe and attention wanted or needed. Nate and Ryan brought in a fun project as they got after shamrock shaped bowls in honor of St. Patrick's Day. Nate used a Shaper Origin router system to cut the shape. Both used a mortise to mount them and they came out great! The Rikon (Darcy's largest lathe) really showed its versatility as it spun projects on both ends of the size spectrum as shown below... Ha!





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 (\$7), 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 instructions for ordering, see the article accessed by clicking on “*read this document first*” which is linked to on the Place Group Order page in the Members Only part of our 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>	
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Membership Director	Jeff Wimer	Wood Gathering	Randy Nichols
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		Empty Bowls Coordinator	Darcy Tataryn
		Facilities Coordinator	OPEN
		Video Coordinator	Marc Vickery
		CraftSupplies Order	Jeff Zens
		Beads of Courage	Mark Choitz
		Benton Co Fair	Brian Skaar
		OWS	Mark Choitz

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Checks payable to: Willamette Valley Woodturners

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

Send all other club correspondence to the club's official address via Dick Powell:

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Or via email to:

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