



# The Burl

A monthly newsletter for the  
**Willamette Valley Woodturners**  
e-mail: [vwturners@gmail.com](mailto:vwturners@gmail.com)  
We are also on Facebook



Member chapter

Volume 30, Issue 6

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

June, 2026

**Next Meeting: 6:30-8:30 PM, June 11, 2026  
Salem 50+ Center**



## June President's Message:

To my fellow Willamette Valley Woodturners,  
Thank you to everyone who helped make May's  
demo and Show 'n Tell successful. The turnout and  
craftsmanship were truly outstanding.

I hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather and finding time at the lathe.

The club is entering into a new realm of increasing revenues for the club treasury. Jeff Wimer suggested at a recent board meeting that we initiate a sponsorship program for our club. I want to recognize Jeff's extraordinary leadership and bringing this program to life. I will go over more details at the upcoming June club meeting.

My monthly safety refreshers are always wear face protection, check blank balance before starting and secure the rest.

Thank you for keeping Willamette Valley Woodturners welcoming, safe and skilled. If you have suggestions for future demos or topics, please send them my way.

Warm regards

Kip Allen

President, Willamette Valley Woodturners.

## June Challenge:

Textured items ala Elizabeth  
Weber!

## Upcoming Presenters and Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Presenter/Event</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Jun 7	Sawdust Session	<b>This is the Sunday before the meeting</b> As needed: time 9 AM, Terry Gerros' Studio Wear your nametag and come learn or teach or practice or visit!
June 11	Steve Newberry	Multi-axis Kuksa Cup
July 9	Tom Hasting	Square Plate
August 13	Mike Meredith	TBA
Sept 10	Kevin Jesequel	TBA (Will do a class; two if needed!)



## June presenter-Steve Newberry: Kuksa Cup

Steve Newberry has been turning since about 1995 and is a leading member of Northwest Woodturners in the Portland area. He's been a featured demonstrator at many symposia, including AAW, as well as at many clubs. WVV last hosted Steve in July of 2024 when he demonstrated his technique for making his multi-axis teapots using the jig he developed.

Steve is a very talented turner who often turns interesting shapes that are not completely round. A kuksa (a traditional Scandinavian drinking cup) is just such a piece.

From Steve: My interests have included tool making, Spindle turning with an emphasis on skew use, bowls, boxes, vases, burial urns, and multi-axis turning in both spindle and faceplate orientations. I had stumbled upon YouTube videos of people carving Kuksa using traditional techniques and since everything but the handle was perfectly suited for the lathe I set about brainstorming on how to incorporate a design with a turned handle. The handle on my turned Kuksa isn't exactly traditional, but it works. Thinking about how to solve the problems we encounter during turning is certainly part of the appeal!



### **May Meeting Notes:**-Brian

-**President Kip Allen** gavelled the meeting to order at 6:30 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. 52 people were in attendance including 3 new members. Welcome!

-**Past Pres Larry** shared the welcome news that while his cancer battle was larger than initially expected, his treatments have been more successful than he could have hoped and he has been declared cancer free! Congratulations Larry and continued good health wishes!

-**Jeff Z** announced that he'd been contacted by Nova and told they were no longer in bankruptcy and that new tools and deals

were in the works. Jeff also let us know the D-Way order went through seamlessly and that a new order would be begun. *(Editor's note: Jimmie Allen, owner, tool developer, and demonstrator at D-Way, had shoulder surgery a few months ago. As those of us who have had such a surgery know, it is a slow recovery. Jimmie was hoping to demo for us this fall, but will most likely visit again sometime next year.)*

-**Kip** has made it a goal to keep us safe and shared the story of Jeff Z, years ago as president, reminding folks to check their fire extinguisher and that a very short time after a space heater started a fire in his shop and he was ready! Timely reminder indeed.

-**Kip** asked members to consider locations for our new club brochures and to let him know.

-**Kip** also shared that the club will be holding a bazaar this December at the 50+ Center. The Capitol Woodcarvers will most likely be joining WVV for the event.

-As noted in Kip's message, WVV is looking to start getting club sponsors. Businesses can donate and benefit from a tax write-off as we are a registered non-profit organization. We will have forms available for folks to share (or use with their business).



**Gallery:** Well, we had a great collection of pieces brought in this month including a good number of "condiment" shakers inspired by Terry's demo last month! Well done, WVV.

Below: Mark C brought in a couple with fused glass inserts on top made by an artist and new turner on the coast. Ben S used a laser to mark the P and S of his matching pair.





Above: Rick did his calligraphy thing with a wood burner on his (which could be used upside down or right side up),  
Brian Skaar, Jim Devorss

Below: Kip Allen (Kip pointed out near the top are a couple layers that are not segmented and that the coloration is noticeably different), Darcy Tataryn (BIG olive chunk), Larry Kime (TALL juniper limb)



Above: Darcy T, George Long  
Below: Brian S, Walt Theis (w/pewter free ring)



Above right: Walt T (pewter rim-wow.)  
Below: Bill Hughes (top and bottom-notice feather/flames on right)



Above: Doug Neve  
Below: Ron, Bill H (apologies for not getting a stand alone pic)



Left: Doug N (nice salvage project after bowl broke!)  
Above: Ron, Philomath MS student projects  
Below: PMS students (segmented bowl lost top three rings)



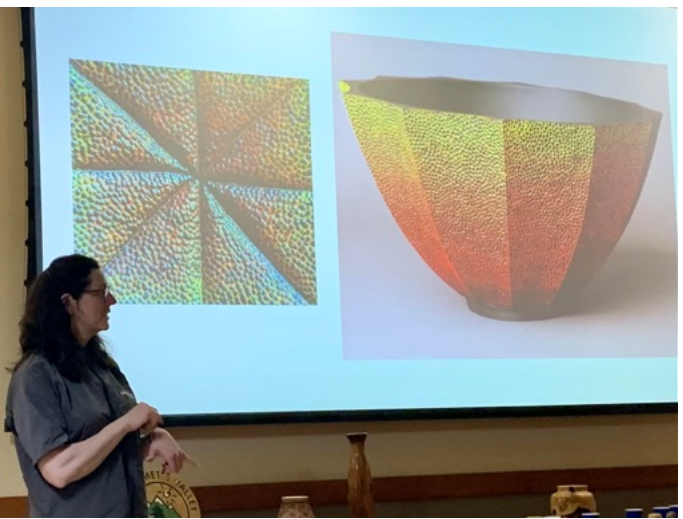
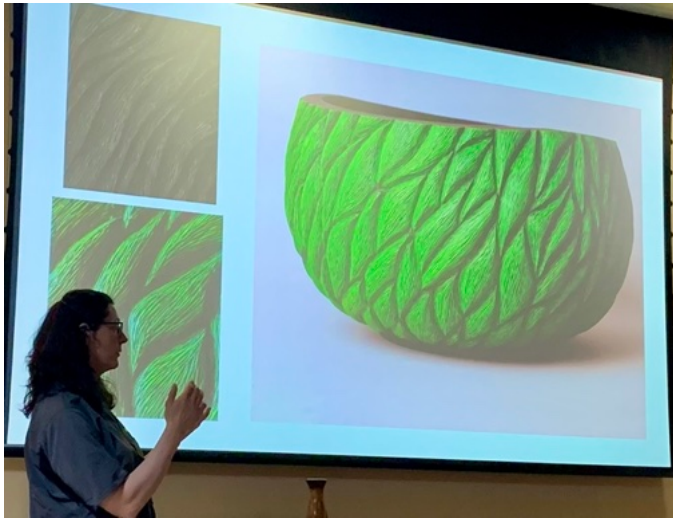
**May Presenter: Elizabeth Weber-Brian**

WVW was so fortunate to get Elizabeth down from Seattle for this presentation. She is incredibly busy teaching, demonstrating, and working on her own pieces. After visiting us, she visited PMS, and then OCW in Newport before embarking on a monthlong journey that includes AAW among other teaching and demonstrating adventures. Busy!

Elizabeth started her professional life as a civil engineer before moving into her current pursuits. To me, it seems she combines analysis and precision capabilities with observational, emotional, and artistic skills to create her stunning works. The stories her pieces represent are as important as anything!

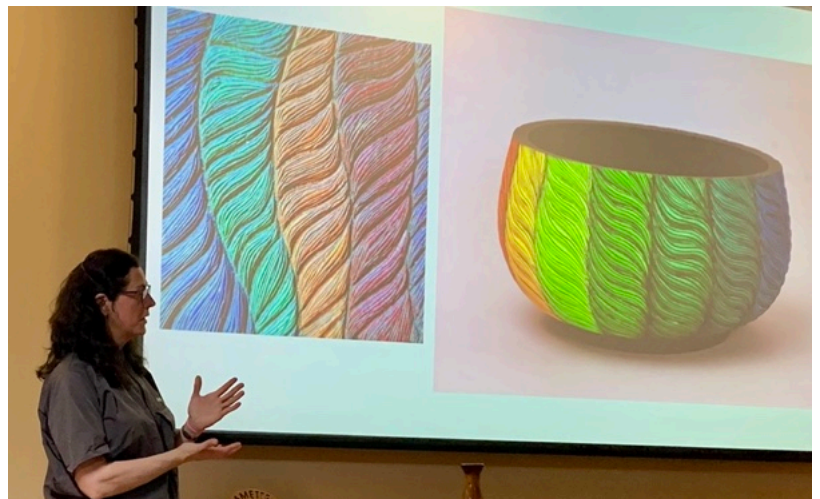


Elizabeth shared a ton of tips and techniques, all with great humor and sound reasoning. *(Below right is a practice I didn't employ and really regretted with my first piece...)*

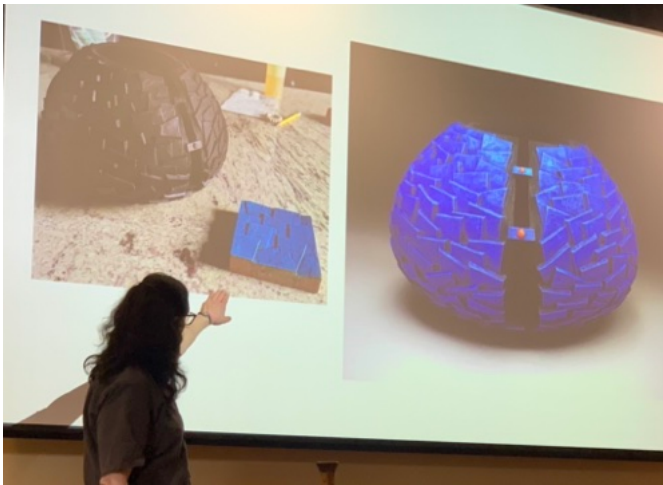
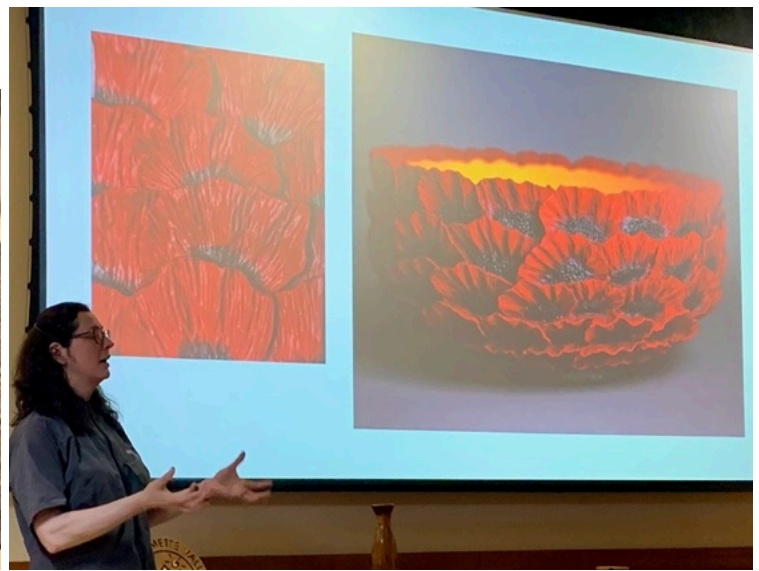


The above left bowl was turned green, dried, and then textured. It was meant to capture the rolling hills of Tennessee though she said it kinda looks like chopped up Grinch... The green is a build up of acrylics using dry brushing. The texturing and painting totalled some 36 hours! The above right texture was inspired by some snakeskin cowboy boots! She estimated she did a million dimples. Ha!

Below right is Elizabeth's thread bowl honoring her family's 200 year business history in France. The colors do follow the color wheel.

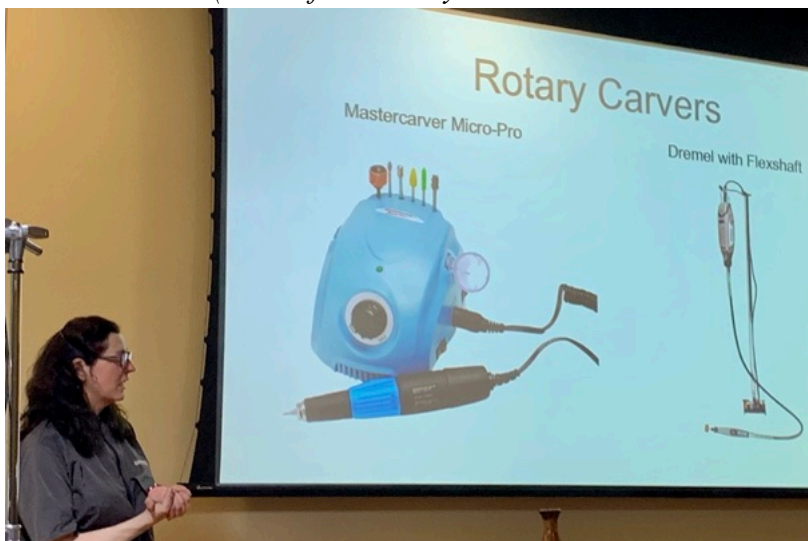


Below right is Elizabeth's Poppies for Dad bowl which she made for his retirement after his 40 year career. He was a WWII buff and "In Flanders Fields" was where the poppies motif was born. This piece is about 10x5" and required around 120 hours to complete. She has incorporated poppies into many projects since including Turmkreisels tops!

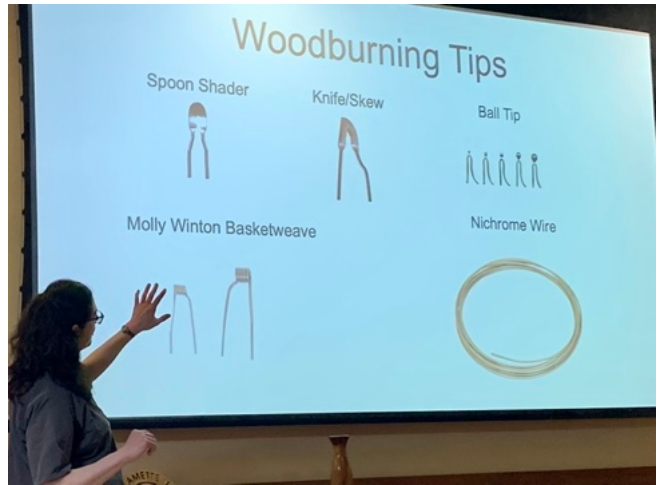
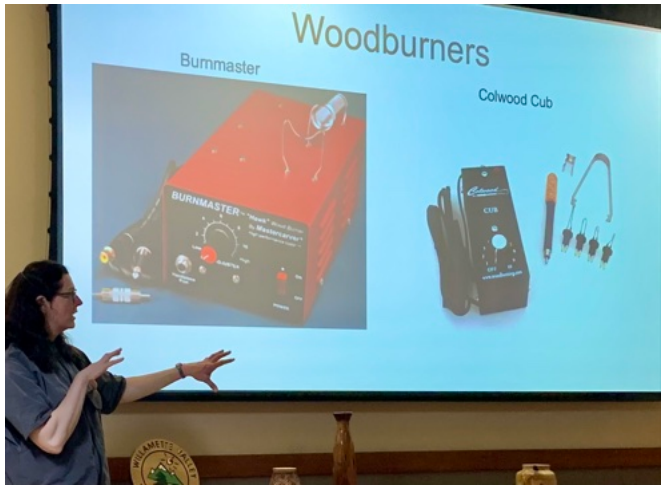
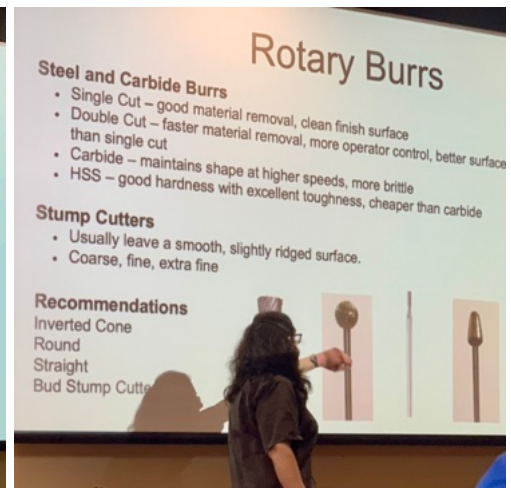
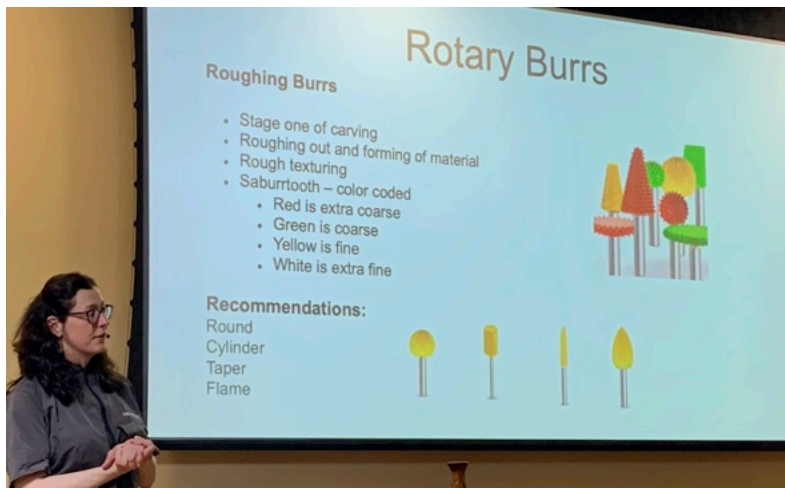


Above left is the motif depicting the basalt columns she saw in Ireland.

After sharing the stories behind some of her pieces (*see her website for more*), Elizabeth took us through the tools she works with. Her Mastercarver is her main go-to as it is quiet, reliable, allows quick bit changes, and has low vibration (*all the features my old Black and Decker does not have...*).



Below: The roughing burrs Elizabeth likes are from Sabertooth. They come in many shapes, three color coded coarseness levels, and last a long time. She likes the steel burrs for the final shaping and texturing. She said she's had good luck with generic burrs saying they are low cost and last a long time.



Above: The Burnmaster is her go-to burner. She said the knife/skew tip is great for lines and the ball tips are great for the millions of dots. She said you can also buy the nichrome wire and make your own tips.



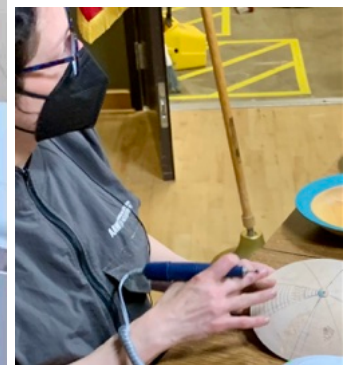
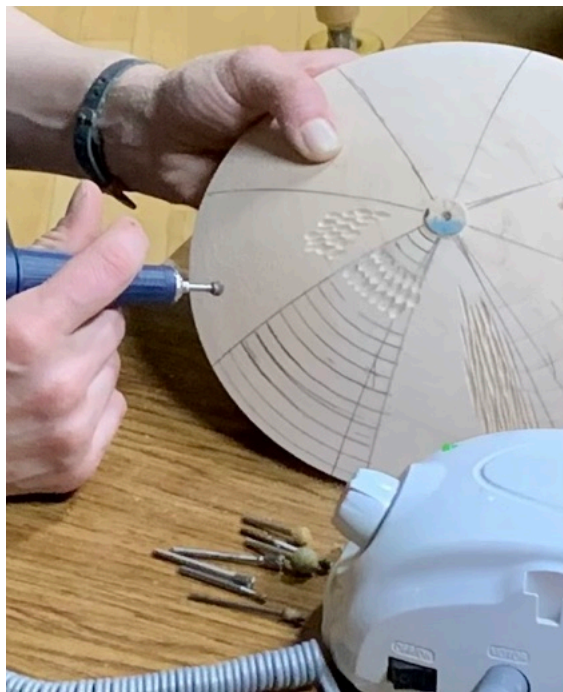
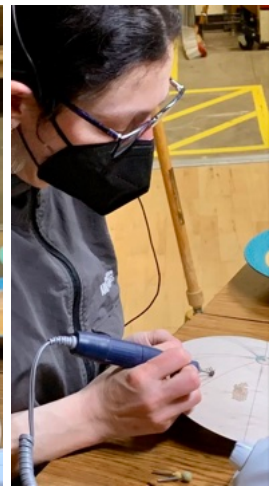
Don't think Elizabeth got much of a break at break time as the break time saw a mini-meeting at her table (and she was great about it!).





Above: Elizabeth shows a version of a story board on which she practices carving, burning and coloring. She keeps her burs in a cookie tin with hard foam which holds them snugly.

Below: Elizabeth showed different effects and patterns. She said if you get burning you can slow the speed or you're going too deep..



She uses a round burr to make the “hand gouged” texture. She strives for a sharp edge between ovals. She demonstrated both a prescribed pattern and random saying she prefers the more random, natural look. If you're going for the random look but find you're getting a pattern, she said to make some random ovals out away from what you've done and that this will force you to be more random.



In making the larger flutes, Elizabeth first draws them and then uses a large round spikey burr at a slower speed. She starts in the middle of the flute and “strokes” the cut, not taking very much material. She then turns the piece around to cut the other end. Smoothing is done with a steel burr and sometimes with some sandpaper double side taped to the end of a flat insert.

The hills pattern is again drawn, and then deeply cut with a sharp edged dovetail burr. She then uses a longer cylindrical burr to shape the hills. Elizabeth then used the skew tip to burn the lines to define the hills. She also showed using a small round burr to stipple, a small wire brush (toothbrush like) to clean up the pulled up wood, and a sort of Scotch pad like attachment for cleanup.



*Elizabeth was zooming through tips and techniques here so I missed getting pics but she showed her cup burr that made the bumps of her broccoli box and the spoon tip with the burner to make a leather look.*

For helping the burrs last longer Elizabeth said you need to clean them periodically. She said an ultrasonic cleaner is great but an open flame or oven cleaner both work well too.

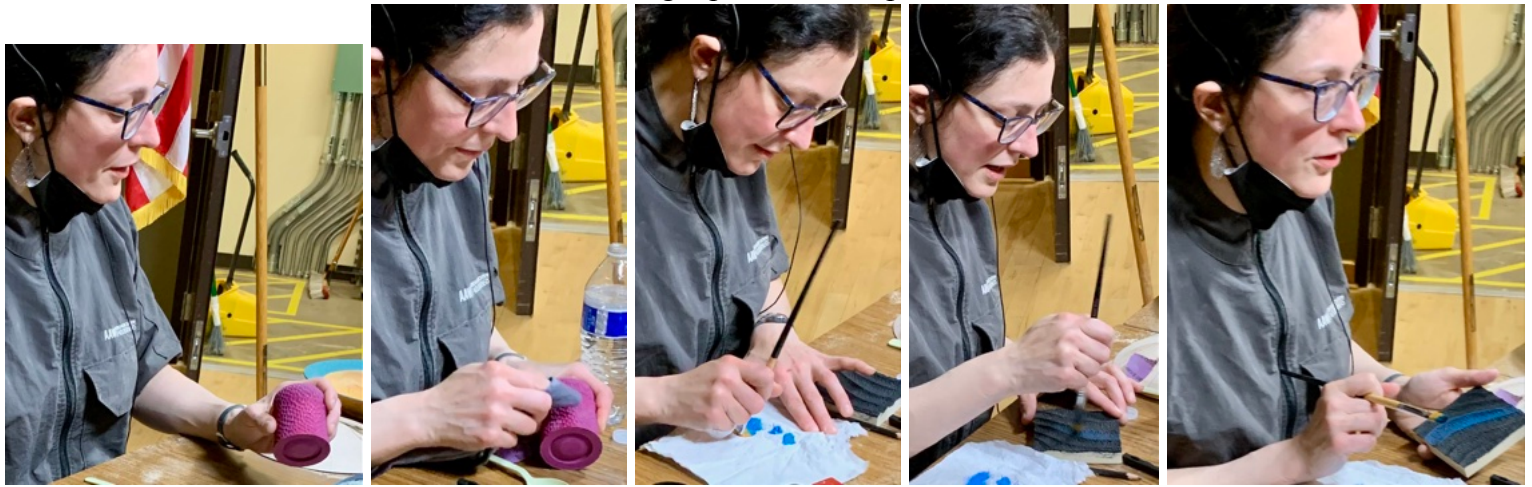


And then it was lessons in color time! Elizabeth likes milk paint as it is food safe and versatile to work with. She mixes

it in very small batches starting with a 1:1 ratio (powder:water) and then adjusts going for a “heavy cream” consistency.

Too thick may lead to cracking while too thin requires more layers (and thus more wait time for drying). She works to make even layers with different shades. After it’s dry she will lightly sand with 400 grit to make the edges pop.

For some projects, Elizabeth will mix her media starting with an acrylic base and using milk paint on top. Below shows this technique where she uses a damp cloth to lightly remove some not-quite-dry milk paint to expose the bright acrylic below. Elizabeth also showed the “dry brush” technique where most of the paint is brushed on to a paper towel before some light passes on the piece.



*Um, what!? That was so much information! After trying my own, I saw the reasons for so many of the little tips you gave. Did I do them? Not so much. And thus my piece is, well, not good... Ha! I will try again! Thank you Elizabeth for your incredible presenting skills and humor and for sharing the stories behind your pieces and the plethora of techniques and methods. Whew.*

**Philomath Middle School visit:** On Friday after our meeting, Elizabeth stopped by the school and did a short visit with some of our 7th graders. Good time, though one kid thought the croissant box was a maggot...





**May Sawdust Session** 15 folks descended on Darcy's shop for a wide variety of activities including sharpening, bowls, spindles, a classic spinning toy, and lots of yakking. I wondered about the crock pot Darcy had down stairs and when I looked it was full of wax. He said spent candles go in there and he uses it to seal up end grain for curing. Awesome.



**Final High School class** The principal who brings the kids said there were only going to be 5 kids and that they would be the ones who made it to every turning workshop since the year started. Therefore Darcy thought it would be good to challenge the kids to do a final dry, completely finished bowl. There were challenges, but all got there and the kids were very happy with the results!



Below: Jeff worked with Silas who ended up having a challenging piece of wood. After stabilizing some punky sections he finished the outside, but after reversing the piece into the chuck, they struck an embedded nail! I wish I'd taken a pic of the process, but Jeff ended up using a multi-tool to saw it out. Bowl turned out well though!  
 Below right: Darcy decided to see if Markus' bowl shape was a cartesian curve by hanging a chain below to check for a match. Pretty close!



Below: The after class gathering and talking and sharing is one of the best parts of the morning.



**Riyana turns!** A few weeks back, Larry Curry sent a note to Darcy and me that a new member's granddaughter at Oregon State University needed to turn some legs for a table she was making. In talking to her, I found out she was about to graduate with a degree in mechanical engineering and that the program requires students make a few things out of different materials. Pretty cool!

Riyana designed a closing puzzle table (as in you can store your partly done jigsaw puzzle in it while using it as a coffee table). She wanted to turn the legs and thus the grandfather contacted Larry who contacted us.

She was a very fast learner. Her first leg with Darcy she said took over 2 ½ hours and her second about 2. Her third with me was about an hour and her last was 30 minutes. Wow!



**What's on your lathe?** Back a while, I helped Doug Neve set up his big Harvey lathe (I didn't do much; he had it handled...). At that time he showed me some cool scroll saw pieces he'd done and recently he sold these at a gallery. Love it! The broken bowl to the right is what he salvaged to make the mirror scone seen in the gallery above. Lemonade out of lemons!

Below the bowl is a load of slabs Doug bought. He said there is some nice figured maple in the batch and that he will bring them to the Sawdust Session if anyone might be interested. Probably be a small fraction of the cost from a retail location!

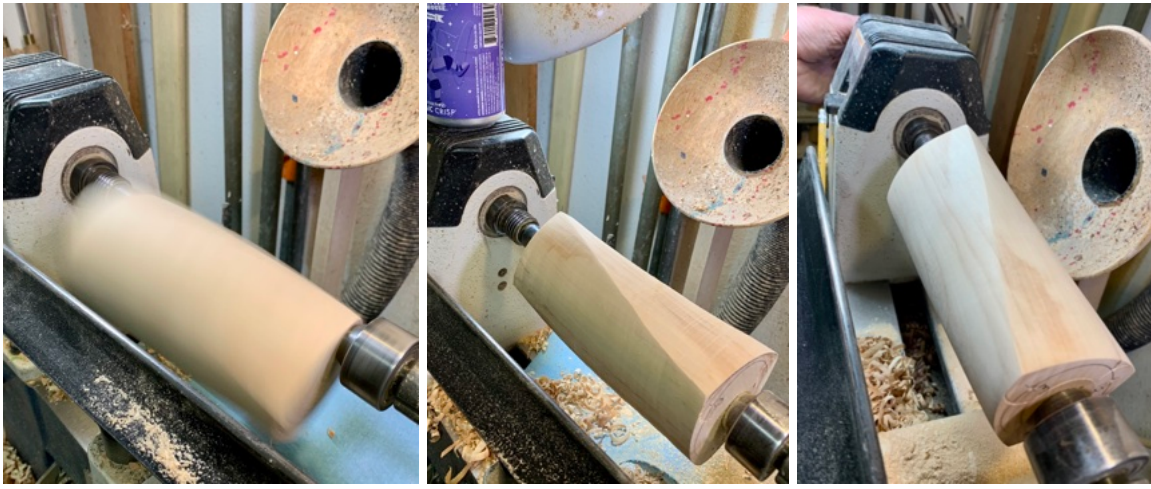


I (Brian) opened up the latest issue of the AAW magazine and lo and behold, there was an article on offset turning. I've been playing with this turning for a while and was happy to see some of the things I was doing were correct according to the article. Some...

Anyway, I made this one to try the texturing on. Turned out nice. Probably shouldn't have been the one I butchered with a burr... Left pic is the piece in motion-kinda wild. The 2nd is



cut, awaiting sanding. The last is sanded awaiting tenons awaiting parting awaiting hollowing...



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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 Roger Dirkx at club meetings**

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

\*CA thin and medium superglue (\$10), black or brown superglue (\$10) accelerator (\$12).

\*WVW hats

\*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 **Marc Vickery**.

### **From Terry Gerros**

I am a distributor for Stick Fast CA glue and accelerator. 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 D-Way:** WVW members get a 10% discount on a group order (See the September 2025 Burl for complete details). Jeff Zens manages the program.
- **Nova:** WVW club members get a 20% discount with no club minimum. See March 2026 Burl for details.
- 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.
- **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.
- **Taylor Woodworks** offers 10% off your online order. Enter **Guild10** in the “Discount code or gift card” window when checking out.

- **Rockler** offers 10% off with a mention of membership to WVW.

## 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)

<https://beaverstatewoodturners.org/>

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

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

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

<https://www.southwestwashingtonwoodturners.org/>

**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**.

<b><u>Executive Board</u></b>		<b><u>Non-Executive Positions</u></b>	
President	Kip Allen	Webmaster	Jeff Zens
Vice President	Brian Skaar	Newsletter Editor	Brian Skaar
Membership Director	Mark Bollenbeck	Wood Gathering	Marc Vickery
Secretary	Terry Gerros	Glue/Supply Sales	Roger Dirkx
Treasurer	Jeff Wimer	Steam-Up Coordinator	<b><u>OPEN</u></b>
Past President	Larry Curry	Mentor Coordinator	Paul Hirt
Board At-Large	Jerry Lelack	State Fair Coordinator	Kip Allen
		Empty Bowls Coordinator	Darcy Tataryn
		Facilities Coordinator	<b><u>OPEN</u></b>
		Video Coordinator	Marc Vickery
		D-Way Order	Jeff Zens
		Beads of Courage	Mark Choitz
		Benton Co Fair	Brian Skaar
		OWS	Mark Choitz, Larry Curry, Brian Skaar
		Anchorseal/walnut oil	Jeff Zens

Send dues & other financial matters to:

Jeff Wimer

305 Cherry Ln NE

Albany, OR 97321

[wwwtreasurer013@gmail.com](mailto:wwwtreasurer013@gmail.com)

Checks payable to: Willamette Valley Woodturners

Send changes to roster information (address, e-mail, phone#) to Mark Bollenbeck at

[wwwmembership26@gmail.com](mailto:wwwmembership26@gmail.com)

Or via email to:

[wwwturners@gmail.com](mailto:wwwturners@gmail.com)