

## March Meeting: A New Twist on Hollow Forms



BAWA president John Cobb will be our demonstrator for the March meeting presenting a different approach to hollow forms. John has spent a number of years working primarily on green wood hollow forms all sourced from local arborist woodpiles. Discarded Olive, spalted Maple, Walnut and Eucalyptus have produced fantastic opportunities for exploring design and techniques associated with greenwood hollowing.



Recently however John had a short piece of 6 quarter reclaimed walnut that was too nice to throw into the green bin so he devised a way to turn it into a hollow form. It turns out it's a rather simple process utilizing basic bowl and platter skills along with a couple tricks from segmented turning. Of course John couldn't stop with just the walnut board, he had to start pushing the envelope to see what kind of opportunities this process presents which led him to involve stitching (Kermode style), glue-ups with David Fleisig and outsourcing with a carpentry shop in West Virginia.



Everyone should be able to replicate this process and apply their own creativity whether it's pyrography, coloring, carving or just highlighting a great piece of wood. Doors open at 8:30 and the meeting runs from 9:00 to 12:30.

To see more of John's work: [www.turninggallery.org](http://www.turninggallery.org) and [www.turningdesign.com](http://www.turningdesign.com)



# BAY AREA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION  
LOCAL CHAPTER AAW

## Club Meetings

Meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each month unless otherwise noted.

8:30 doors open for setup, store and library use, swap of ideas and viewing of displays

9:00—12:30 meeting and demo, unless otherwise noted

**Meetings will be held at the PHEC Woodturning Center, 1 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill, CA.**

See [bayareawoodturners.org/](http://bayareawoodturners.org/) for directions and club information.

### **BAWA Officers Meeting -**

Officer meetings are open to all members. Contact [John Cobb](mailto:John.Cobb@bayareawoodturners.org) if you would like to be on the agenda.

## 2015 Event Schedule

Mar 8th	John Cobb: Two Piece Hollow Forms 8:30-12:30
Apr 11th	Guilio Marcolongo 8:30-3:30
May 23rd	Jason Breach (UK Turner)
June 13th	TBA
July 11th	Turn for Troops 8:30-12:30
Aug 8th	BBQ
Sept 12th	TBA
Oct 10th	Andrew Baxter: Xmas Ornaments 8:30-12:30
Nov 14th	John Beaver 8:30-3:30
Dec 12th	Holiday Party, Auction and Raffle 11:30-3:00

The Bay Area Woodturners Association is a local chapter of the American Association of Woodturners. Our purpose is to provide a meeting place for local turners to share ideas and techniques and to educate the general public regarding the art of turning. The Association usually meets the second Saturday of each month. The Association periodically sponsors exhibitions and demonstrations by local and internationally known turners.

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TBA

## From Australia to BAWA, Giulio Marcolongo



At our April 11 Meeting we have the opportunity to see a demonstration from one of the great professional turners, Giulio Marcolongo. Giulio is co-founder of the Turnaround Movement of Australia, a member of AAW, NAW (NZ Assoc.

of Woodturners), and Victorian Association of Woodturners. He has demonstrated 9 times (by invitation) at Utah Symposium; the AAW Symposium in Florida; New Zealand 3 times; Turnfest 7 times; and in England.

For those who may not be aware, Giulio is also the designer of the Vermec off-center chuck that is suited to any chuck with dovetail jaws.

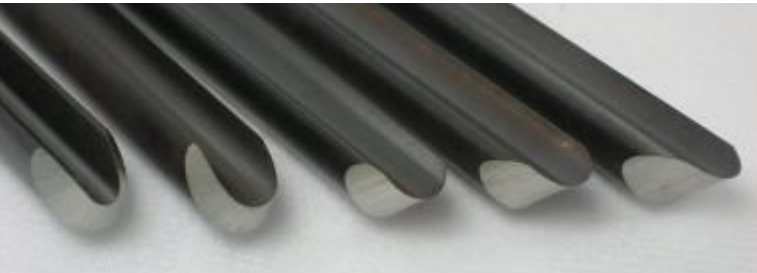


Giulio enjoys travelling, teaching, and passing on his skills to others. He especially likes making lidded boxes which have his own flair, turning that hard Australian burl into beautiful pieces and making the occasional hat.

Don't miss it, April 11th, 8:30 to 3:30.



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## Utah Woodturning Symposium 2015: May 14th-16th

The Timpanogos Woodturners and the Utah Association of Woodturners along with Craft Supplies USA are happy to announce plans for *May 14-16, 2015*, for the highly acclaimed Utah Woodturning Symposium! Engage with today's top professionals and up and coming woodturners in a friendly, informal learning environment with over 95 demonstrations to choose from and a full schedule of Special Events. It will be held on the *Utah Valley University campus in the UCCU Events Center in Orem, Utah.*

Crafts Supply has their Super Wednesday on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Demonstrations, sales, and meeting old friends is all part of the fun.

2015 Demonstrators include: *Sam Angelo, Sally Ault, Mark Baker, Michael Blankenship, Jason Breach, Jay Brown, Rex Burningham, Kip Christensen, Cindy Drozda, Ashley Harwood, Kurt Hertzog, Mike Jackofsky, Art Liestman, Eric Lofstrom, Giulio Marcolongo, Cindy Navarro, Stan Record, Jim Rodgers, Jason Schneider, Alan Trout, Neil Turner, and others.*

The easiest way to register is to visit our website at [www.utahwoodturning.com](http://www.utahwoodturning.com). Registration opened December 1, 2014. If you need a paper registration sheet, Contact me at 801 471 0758.

We would love to welcome you to the beautiful mountains of Utah. Make our symposium part of a needed and enjoyable vacation to the canyons of Utah. Sightseeing and hiking are incredible here, because of the unique natural rock formations in the valleys and mountains. We have more National Parks than any other state. If you are 65 or older, you can get your National Park sticker and visit all the Parks for free. If you aren't into visiting Parks, there are many, many other fun things to visit in Utah.

**Sincerely,**  
**Susan Hendrix**  
**Utah Woodturning Symposium Coordinator**



# Trees of the Bay Area #10

## *Pyrus kawakami*

By Tony Wolcott



The evergreen pear is an unassuming tree often overlooked due to the all white bloom of the flowering pear (*Pyrus calleryana*). As the name implies evergreen pear is always in leaf, its white flower display in the spring is somewhat subdued by the green leaves. Around here the leaf always has leaf spot - *Entomosporium* which is a fungal disease that spots the leaves of plants in the Pomoideae group of the rose family, including apple, flowering crab apple, evergreen pear, hawthorn, pear, photinia, pyracantha, quince, *Raphiolepis*, and toyon. Like the flowering pear, this tree only produces a few miniature pears of no use.

*Pyrus kawakamii* is in the rose family. The tree is native to the island of Taiwan. It can grow to over 12" diameter. This tree is a common ornamental street tree in southern California and also in the milder climate of the bay area. The bark of the evergreen pear is quite distinct. The bark is thick and plated like alligator skin, a dark grey color. Great care is required to keep the bark on for natural edge bowls.



The wood is salmon colored and quite uniform, very easy to turn. Like most fruit woods working with just the heartwood is advisable. The evergreen pear does spalt easily. The tree is susceptible to root diseases and if you catch the wood in time the various black lines can be stunning. Checking during the drying period is common. Rough turn this wood green and then seal and allow to dry slowly. The wood is quite strong and heavy - 45 pounds per cubic foot. Most pear wood is similar and the ease with which the wood turns makes this a very pleasant wood to work with, highly recommended.

Like all pears this tree is prone to fireblight (*Erwinia amylovora*). Damaged limbs can be pruned down to clean wood, but over time this bacterial disease will kill pears. That is the reason that flowering and evergreen pears are not planted as street trees these days. At best evergreen pears live from 60-80 years. Keep an eye out for this street tree. The bark is the easiest way to identify it, and try your hand with the brightly colored wood.

## **Winning Bidders From Holiday Party Take the Woodpile Tour**



The woodpile tour, auctioned off at the Holiday party, was finally held on Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup>. Five of the 7 bidders braved the 65 degree warm spring day exploring two arborist piles around the Oakland area. Led by Albany Arborist Tony Walcott and John Cobb, we met at the wood lot under the West Grand Ave overpass and found freshly cut Bay Laurel, Ironbark Eucalyptus, redwood and a mountain of Pine. Tony lead us through the identification process for the different species of wood and then we discussed how to cut bowl and hollow form blanks from the rounds. Once the talking was done, we fired up the chainsaws and cut a pile of blanks.

After Grand Ave we drove 15 minutes up to HW 13 and stopped at a larger arborist yard with an extensive woodpile. Here we found quilted redwood, Bay, Camphor, red Eucalyptus and more mountains of Pine. Everyone left with a trunk full of blanks and an appreciation for the great opportunities waiting to be discovered. Thank you to everyone involved, it was a great morning and an excellent fundraiser for BAWA.

# President's Ramblings

March 2015

## What's your angle?

*The Mt Diablo Woodturning School recently held a one day advanced bowl turning class featuring BAWA club member Brad Adams and organized by Jan Blumer. Brad did a fantastic job demonstrating his process, tool selection and sharpening techniques for producing high end bowls. I was particularly interested in what Brad said about his preferred grind and tool selection for different parts of the bowl.*

*BAWA has had many presenters and they all discuss "their" grind for bowl gouges - David Ellsworth, Mike Mahoney and Jerry Kermode, all recent demonstrators have remarkably different grinds and will tell you theirs is the best for what they do and most likely for what you do too. Brad's gouges have a combination of Ellsworth, Mahoney, Kermode and a little Eli Avisera thrown in. So what are mere mortal turners supposed to do? Regrind after each professional and learn to turn with new tools? Stick with one system and plug your ears when a presenter talks about their grind?*

*I would vote for a logical decision: if you are a infrequent user of a bowl gouge, pick an Ellsworth, Mahoney or Kermode grind for one gouge and master that. It won't be ideal for all situations and shapes but it will still give you the opportunity to make a great piece. Realistically what does adding another gouge offer? Can you do something or make something that you couldn't do with only one gouge? Nope. A second gouge gives you the opportunity to get a better tool finish and sand a little less on one part of a bowl - no guarantees of a better end product. You can buy a lot of 80 grit sandpaper for the cost of a second Powdered Metal Ellsworth gouge.*

*If you are a more serious turner or a serious tool junkie then two or three gouges with different grinds can make sense. However many gouges you store in your quiver, the key to successfully executing a piece is not the number of gouges you own rather the gouges you know how to use well. If you commit to the three gouge system then practice enough with each gouge so that their use becomes an automatic choice rather than a "what if I try this" decision which often leads to bowl shards flying through the air.*

*There is one standard that holds true to every turner with every tool: keep it sharp! A sharp tool brings out the best in your skill; it is undeniable that as the edge dulls so does your output. I have yet to hear a professional say they love a dull gouge or scraper - so why do we so often use non sharp tools? I challenge you to set an alarm to go off every 5 minutes the next time you are turning and regrind at that interval. Experience what it's like to turn with a very sharp tool for a long period of time. You might find that you don't need to buy more tools, rather just keep the ones you own sharp and watch your ability and enjoyment of turning elevate.*

*Spending a day with a professional like Brad is a great way to improve your skills and try out new tools - I highly recommend it. See the BAWA website for a link to the new spring classes - registration opens March 21.*

*Don't forget to bring a few pieces for the wood raffle and something for show-and-tell.*

*Keep turning it up!*

*John Cobb*



## Extending the Life of Opened Containers

Bloxygen, Private Reserve (for wine) and similar inert gas dispensers have been used to extend the life of opened containers of finishing products. A heavier than air gas (Carbon dioxide, or Argon) is sprayed into the finish container, which settles over the finish and keeps the remaining oxygen inside the container from getting to the finish, causing it to skin-over or turn into glop. Personally, I've not had as good a result from these products as others report. Maybe I don't put in enough inert gas. Maybe my finish was already on the way to the grave yard, and my attempt was too late. I don't know.



An alternative idea was, instead of trying to segregate the trapped air from the finish, why not pump out the air so there isn't any (in reality, as much) oxygen to react with the finish. My vacuum food saver has a mason jar lid attachment that will pump the air out of a jar, and leave the lid in the depressed mode you like to see after a proper canning operation. For me, this has worked well, and I happened to have the stuff on hand anyway. I have to admit, I don't find it very satisfying purchasing a can of inert gas that when you shake it feels empty.



*(By Mike Lanahan  
Courtesy of Silicon Valley Woodturners)  
[www.svwoodturners.org](http://www.svwoodturners.org)*

## Newsletter Articles

Got a great idea you want to share with your fellow Woodturners? Whether it is a turning tool, turning technique, finishing process or anything at all related to turning, your BAWA newsletter can always use an article. If you have pictures, all the better. If you need help writing it up or taking pictures, we're here to help. That's what our club is all about - sharing.

Contact:  
Louie Silva  
Email: [newslettereditor@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:newslettereditor@bayareawoodturners.org)



## CRAFT SUPPLIES 10% DISCOUNT ORDER

The 10% discount applies to any published price (including sale items, close-outs, etc.) and there's no tax and S&H is free on almost all items. Craft Supplies has a new catalog that includes new items with a different item numbering system. There have been some price increases as well so don't use old catalogs. If you don't have the latest catalog please look on-line to pick your loot and check prices and item numbers.

Orders are placed by filling out an electronic order form which is available on the BAWA website. E-mail the form to Dean Adkins ([adkd@chevron.com](mailto:adkd@chevron.com)) with all the requested information:

- Member name, phone number and e-mail address
- Catalog item number
- Catalog page number
- Item description
- Quantity ordered
- List / sale price (before 10% discount)

You can call Dean (925-998-4111) to place an order, but must follow up with an e-mail to confirm all the required information.

*February Show and Tell*



Ros Harper-Segmented Hollow Form



Fred Deadrick-Street Organ



Bob Bean-Cake Pedestal



Andrew Baxter-Fluted Bowl



Jay Holland-Four Hollow Pieces



Don White-Small Boxes

# Mt. Diablo Woodturning Center—Spring 2015 Class List

## On-Line Registration Opens, March 21, 2015!

### INTRODUCTION TO WOODTURNING (WOODTURNING 101)

Learn about the fastest growing craft activity in the USA. Learn about wood lathe operation, tools, and safest turning techniques. Class includes extensive written materials, fun turning activities of increasing complexity and projects to take home. Personal safety gear provided.

Text book required purchase in class \$20.00

Register for course # 95501001

4/14/15 – 6/16/15 (10 weeks)

Instructor: Jim Rodgers

Tuesday, 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Fee: \$170.00 (includes lab fee)

### BEGINNING BOWL TURNING (WOODTURNING 201)

Hone your bowl turning skills by learning to properly use the bowl gouge, scrapers and other tools that will minimize sanding. The program will also focus on shape and form including both finished edge and natural edge bowls.

**Prerequisite: Woodturning 101 or permission of instructor**

Instructors: Bob Nolan

Register for course # 95502001

4/16/15 – 6/04/15 (8 weeks)

Thursday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Fee: \$136.00 (includes lab fee)

### TURNING HOLLOW VESSELS (WOODTURNING 401)

This course is for wood turners who desire to continue to advance their turning skills. Students will learn hollowing techniques using Ellsworth style hollowing tools (provided) as well as the new carbide cutter technology. You will learn all the steps necessary for hollowing and finishing a vessel. (No class 5/13/15)

Instructor: John Cobb

Register for course # 95506001

4/15/15 – 6/3/15 (7 weeks)

Wednesday, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Fee: \$119.00 (includes lab fee)

### BASKET ILLUSIONS (NEW)

Learn the techniques required to make your turned objects look like a woven basket. You'll learn how to select the wood and how to use the tools to cut beads, lay out lines and burn in the lines. Then you will learn how to put on the color and finish. (one hour lunch break)

**Prerequisite: Woodturning 101 or permission of instructor**

Instructor: Bob Nolan

Register for course # 95717001

4/28/15 – 5/5/15 (2 weeks)

Tuesday, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Fee: \$83.00 (includes lab fee)

### END GRAIN TURNING — TURNED BOXES

Boxes require unique tools and techniques. Learn from Dave Fleisig how to complete end grain projects, master precision turning and construct jam chucks. Hollowing tools provided. One hour lunch break.

**Prerequisite: Woodturning 101 or permission of instructor**

Instructors: Jan Blumer/Dave Fleisig

Register for course # 95542001

6/1/15 (1 week)

Monday, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Fee: \$42.00 (includes lab fee)

### PUT COLOR IN YOUR WORK (NEW)

Learn how to use pens, dyes & paint to help make your projects stand out. You'll also learn how to choose the best woods to use with each type of coloring technique.

Instructor: Bob Nolan

Register for course # 95716001

4/14/15 – 4/21/15 (2 weeks)

Tuesday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Fee: \$42.00 (includes lab fee)

### MAKING RESIN PEN BLANKS

Learn from Bill Mellberg how to make resin castings for beautiful pen blanks. Discover what types of materials can be used to color resins. Understand what types of molds make casting fun and easy to un-mold.

Instructors: Jim Rodgers/Bill Mellberg

Register for course # 95719001

4/16/15 – 4/23/15 (2 weeks)

Thursday, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Fee: \$42.00 (includes lab fee)

### WEDGIE SLED CONSTRUCTION (NEW)

This class will assist participants in building a new style of accurate cutting sled for segment projects. Materials list will be e-mailed to registrants. Construction can be done in the classroom or at home.

Instructor: Jim Rodgers

Register for course # 95718001

6/11/15 – 6/18/15 (2 weeks)

Thursday, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Fee: \$42.00 (includes lab fee)

### DIABLO WOODTURNERS

A free demonstration and discussion group meeting monthly to learn and share their work and ideas. Professional demonstrations and show and tell are monthly activities.

Instructor: Jim Rodgers

Course # 95500001

5/7/15, 6/4/15

Thursday, 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Fee: no charge

### INDEPENDENT PROJECT- OPEN STUDIO

These are times for independent work – and are a staple of our turning program. Come and work with expert coaches. Our vast selection of tools and accessories will allow you to undertake most project opportunities. Pay for only the session you attend. Skill Level: All Levels. Fee: \$15.00 per session

4/17/15 - 6/26/15 (11 weeks)

Friday, 9:00 – 12:00 PM noon

Register for course #95508001

Class room monitors: Rodgers/Nolan

Register online at:

[www.mtdiabloadulthood.org](http://www.mtdiabloadulthood.org)

More information at:

[www.diablowoodturning.org](http://www.diablowoodturning.org)