

BAY AREA



**WOODTURNERS**  
ASSOCIATION  
A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION  
LOCAL CHAPTER AAW

December 2015

Volume 19, Issue 12

## BAWA HOLIDAY PARTY: AUCTION & RAFFLE

BAWA's holiday lunch and is finally here, scheduled for December 12th from 11 - 2 pm. We are planning a suite of events including the annual turning competition, upgraded raffle, silent auction and of course a fabulous lunch with potluck side dishes and desserts.

**The club competition has the following categories:**

1. Bowls and Platters
2. Boxes
3. Hollow Forms
4. Functional Items



Members can submit up to one piece in each category and we encourage everyone to bring at least one piece. The membership will judge the novice/intermediate pieces and BAWA lifetime member Merryll Saylan along with renowned furniture maker Michael Cullen will judge the advanced category and select Best in Show.

Joel Albert has been busy putting together another fabulous list of private classes, tools and wood to sell in the silent auction. We are still looking for more items, please let Joel know if you can assist [joelalb@yahoo.com](mailto:joelalb@yahoo.com).

This year we are stuffing the raffle with all sorts of good prizes including the professional demo pieces, tools, face shields, shirts, bags and of course a stack of craft supplies gift certificates. Ticket prices: 1 for \$5, 6 for \$20, 40 for \$100.

Just a reminder, the auction and raffle make up a meaningful part of the club's budget which allows us to keep dues low and the demonstrator events as high quality as possible. So please be generous where you can, it's a great way to support the club.

Now the tasty part, the club is providing the main course for lunch and members will bring sides and desserts. Tulios Italian restaurant has once again been hired to cater the event and will bring a variety of pasta dishes. We have divided up the pot-luck responsibilities alphabetically by last name as follows:

A - H    Salads  
I - R    Desserts  
S - Z    Drinks



Please bring enough for 10 people

The holiday party will be held at the Winslow Center in Pleasant Hill (2590 Pleasant Hill Rd, 94523). We need helpers to assist in setting up between 11 and 11:30. If we have many hands we can get it done in a snap. Spouses, partners and significant others of all members are welcome. We look forward to seeing everyone on the 12th.



# BAY AREA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION

A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION  
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## Club Meetings

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

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

9:00—12:30 meeting and demo

**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.

## 2015-2016 Event Schedule

Dec 12th	Holiday Party: Auction and Raffle 11:30-3:00
Jan 9th	Jim Rodgers
Feb TBA	Eric Lofstrom-8:30-4:-00
Apr	Ashley Harwood
May 14th	Tricks and Cheats
June 11th	Brad Adams

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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Social Coordinator  
TBA

# Changes to This Year's Competition

The annual BAWA competition is coming up at our Holiday Party on December 12th. We have simplified categories this year to avoid confusion and unscrupulous blue ribbon chasing of prior years. This year we will also modify the criteria for the coveted Best-In-Show award which will now be open to all entries not just the advanced category.

There are now two main skill Levels:

- 1) Advanced / Professional: you have sold your work in a gallery or have won a blue ribbon in that specific class
- 2) Novice / Intermediate: Anyone not in Advanced.

There are four categories:

1. Bowls and Platters
2. Boxes
3. Hollow Forms
4. Functional Items



- You may enter one piece in each category
- You can be a novice in one category and advanced in another
- Previous blue ribbon winners are now in the expert skill level for that one category
- If you have any questions, please send me an email.

We encourage everyone on bring at least one piece this year to make it a great event.

Date: December 12th

Time: 11 - 3

Where: Winslow Center 2590 Pleasant Hill Rd, 94523

We look forward to seeing you and your entry(s) on the 12th

## 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.



## Presidential Ramblings

*December 2015*

Happy Holidays BAWA Members! We have survived the post Thanksgiving weigh-in, black friday that lasted a week and finally a few drops of rain. I hear of many members making holiday gifts, please send me some pictures and I will create a slideshow of what we created for all to see.

When I first started woodturning I remembered hearing a seasoned woodworker commenting that woodturning was only for production bowls and table leg type work - nothing creative. I was a little disheartened by this comment - there had to be more than bannister supports and dog bowls.

Clearly my narrow minded acquaintance had not foreseen the John Beavers of the world who have phenomenal creativity and elevate woodturning to an entirely new orbit. I was so impressed with John's presentation to the club in November - he figured out how to incorporate the function of the bandsaw to create an incredibly unique and visually pleasing concept. After figuring out the mechanics for the jig, he has then pushed further into the realm of creativity and expression which is really inspiring. Granted artistic woodturning is a relatively new concept it's pretty impressive these days to come up with something that has not been done before.

John's presentation was a fantastic end to our professional and local demonstrators for 2015. It has been a great year, looking back at Guilio Marcolongo, Jason Breach, David Marks and finally John Beaver. Each developed their voice within woodturning, researching new skills and procedures and then went on the demonstration circuit to make anyone who wanted to watch a better turner. No less important are our local artists and BAWA members who prepared fantastic demonstrations: Jim Rodgers, Mark Knize and Mike Bulat - we are fortunate to have them as part of our club. I applaud all those who take the time to teach and share ideas around the lathe - you help make woodturning a fulfilling passion for us all.

I want to take a moment to thank all the BAWA officers and helpers who have enabled us to provide a great program this year and grow membership to an all time high of 149. Below is a list of officers who help make this all possible:

President: John Cobb  
Vice President: Paul Litsky  
Treasurer: Joel Alpert  
Secretary: David Fleisig  
Member at Large: Michele Freeze  
Librarian: Cindy Navarro & Michelle Brooks  
Educational Coordinator: Jan Blumer  
Membership: Hugh Bevan-Thomas, Karen Rice & Tim Kennedy  
Web Master: Jeff Tanner & Greg Ketell  
Turn For Troops: Jeff Tanner  
Newsletter Editor: Louie Silva  
Store manager: Rich Kalish & Michele Freeze  
Setup Crew: Vern Stoval, Gerry Jakubowski & John Hile  
Video Coordinator: Bruce Speights, Larry Brooks & David Hoag  
Wood Meister: Tony Wolcott & Gary Bingham

In addition there are many more who anonymously help cleanup after a demo, contribute to the wood raffle, proofread the newsletter, and much more - lots of small efforts that are very important. We are lucky to have many contributing to the program and look forward to more members getting involved.

We have welcomed over 40 new members this year, I hope to meet you all very soon and hear about your woodturning goals and interests. We have a wealth of knowledge available within the club to assist in your woodturning development. Please don't hesitate to ask questions at a meeting or contact me and I will be happy to assist.

In gratitude, I lift a glass to remember those who we lost this year. They may no longer be sitting with us at our meetings but they are certainly in our thoughts. Cheers!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Holiday Party on December 12. We have a fantastic agenda with the club competition, raffle, silent auction and a pot luck lunch with LOTS of desserts. Anyone wearing a Santa hat or dressed like an elf gets a free raffle ticket!

Enjoy the holidays and cherish celebrations with family and good friends.

John Cobb  
BAWA President

## November Show and Tell



Hugh Bevin-Thomas-  
Bowl with Segmented Rim



Gary Bingham-  
Christmas Ornaments



Steve Smyers-  
Bowl with Decorative Rim



John Cobb-  
Spalted Closed Vessel



Craig Elliott-  
Christmas Ornaments



Vern Stovall-  
Teapot

*(Continued on following page)*

## November Show and Tell Continued



David Hoag-Basket  
Illusion Box



Harvey Klein-  
Christmas Ornament



Don White-  
Small Bowl



Harry Levin-  
Platter



Andrew Baxter-  
Christmas Ornaments



Larry Brooks-  
Hammer



# John Beaver: Ideas and Projects

*"Always push your art forward. If you have a vision for a design, master it. Then change it. Move it around. Always look for what is next."* ~John Beaver.



When John was 3 years old he told his mother he wanted to be a photographer. At 11 he saw a movie being filmed. So it was no surprise to his family that he became a motion picture cameraman and later a director. In his motion picture work he learned an important lesson. You have to have artistic vision of what you want to do, but you have to master the technical skills necessary to reach these goals.

In 2008, Beaver started playing around with a lathe. He had no idea what to do. He was given pieces of wood and turned them into pleasing patterns. Without any formal training he started doing segmented turning. He has always been close to the waves, their rhythm and motion. His artistic vision was grounded in his life near the ocean.

Then a light bulb went off in his mind, combine turning with his artistic vision of waves. He took classes from Mark Gardner to learn the technical skills of turning wood. Then it was a matter of trial and error until he could incorporate the energy of waves into bowl turning. By 2010 he gave up motion pictures to concentrate full time on wood turning.

Beaver used slides of his work to demonstrate his commitment to having a vision, figuring out how to accomplish it, then moving it forward to the next vision.

- 1) Incorporating a wave into a bowl – how to do it. What are the possible variations of this form?
- 2) Expand the walls of the waves. Have them protrude from the bowl. Make the vision 3 dimensional.
- 3) Incorporate contrasting woods to change the texture of the turning. Contrast the color of the inside and out side of the bowls by incorporating dyes into the process.
- 4) Reverse the looks so protruding waves turn inward.
- 5) Open up the designs. Make boxes that open up at the wave. Changes positioning so waves are no longer parallel to one another. Use artists pigment.
- 6) Incorporate hollow forms that look like wave vessels within vessels.
- 7) Flying ribs – waves that go vertical instead of horizontal. Experiment with flying buttresses from architecture
- 8) Combine horizontal waves and flying ribs to create new types of bowls.

John believes that it is important to get good pictures of works both for your own records (once you sell the bowl you don't have it to refer to anymore) and for submitting to a gallery.

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## Project 1: Wave Bowl

Start by laying out the design on a block of wood. The wood must be dry. If there is any moisture left in the wood it will warp and any slight warping will ruin the bowl. When laying out the design the wave pattern should follow the grain of the wood. Draw the bowl design on the block.

Need to use a compass to draw the radius of an arc that equals the diameter of the bowl. i.e. if the bowl rim is 5 inches, the radius of the arc is 5 inches. This seems to be the best visual. Draw the arc onto the bowl design.

Mark the centers on either side of the block and drill 1/8 in holes. These will be used to maintain the structure of the bowl. Cut the arc on a band saw. It is important that the band saw table be perfectly flat. Use a smooth and steady pass. You can't fix a mistake here. You have to cut it right. Use a fine tooth blade on the band saw. John uses Lenox 16 tooth saw blades.



Using a piece of waste wood cut another arc exactly the same. This will be used to bend the veneer that will be inserted into the bowl before it is reconstructed. Beaver uses a veneer that is about 1/8 inch. The veneer needs to be bent at the same angle as the bowl. To do this wrap the veneer in a wet paper towel. Microwave for 1 minute 20 seconds. Unwrap and clamp into waste block. Veneer should dry to the same angle as the bowl. Before gluing everything together take a moment to dry fit all the pieces. Insert the dowels and make sure everything is solid. Now glue it all together. Beaver uses Tight Bond II glue. PVA glues bond fibers together and hold better. CA does not. Use lots of glue and glue both sides of surfaces. Then fit together and clamp. Clean up glue using q-tips.

Remount the bowl on the lathe between centers. Round the corners using a bowl gouge. The shape that works best for this wave illusion is with a slightly convex rim. The wave should be closer to top of bowl so adjust base appropriately. Turn a tenon on the base. Reverse in the chuck. Hollow out the inside of the bowl. In order for the wave to show clearly the bowl must be turned convex like the outside. Otherwise the illusion is not maintained on the interior. Wall thickness should be about 3/16 in. Sand and apply finish.



## Project 2: Protruding Ring Bowl

The key to this project are the jigs. Start by making a circle cutting jig that fits the groove in the band saw table. On top of this have another jig that moves forward and backward along the circle cutting jig. On top of this is a third jig that can hold a chuck at any height. All these jigs are necessary to be able to safely and accurately deconstruct a bowl on the band saw.

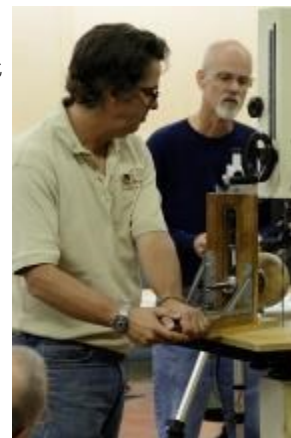


Now, make a nice bowl. When you reverse the bowl onto the chuck be sure to leave ample room when hollowing for future work. Keep the bowl on the chuck. Cut two little pieces of MDF on the band saw that can be glued into the inside of the bowl. These will be used to hold the dowels that keep everything together. They have to match the curvature of the bowl. Stick them on the inside of the bowl using a glue gun. Drill holes in them to fit in the dowels.

*(Continued on following page)*



Now mount the bowl on the system of jigs. Figure out how you are going to swivel the bowl to make the arc of the wave cut. Mark this cut on a piece of tape. Figure out the second cut with the same arc and mark on the piece of tape. Now make the two cuts carefully. You should now have a pancake removed from the middle of the bowl with the pieces of MDF available for refitting when the bowl is reconstructed.



With the bowl still held in the chuck reassemble on the lathe. You need to put a spacer in where the pancake was removed. This can be a piece of laminate approximately the size of the pancake. Steam bend it to fit the profile of the bowl, about 1 minute in the microwave wrapped in a wet towel. Secure each part on the lathe using dowels. Use a block on the tailstock to squeeze the form. Beaver drills mini holes in the bowl to control how much he decreases the circumference of the bowl. Joh uses a shear cut to shape the top and bottom of bowl. Sand and finish.



You can do a lot of stuff with the pancake. You can shape it, dye it, carve it, sand it, and finish it. Beaver uses Golden Brand Paints because he likes the translucent nature of the paints and the dyes are longer lasting. The paints are vibrant but don't cover up the grain of the wood. Bright colors don't seem to fade. He also ebonizes to get a dark look.

The final step is to glue the pieces back together. With the bowl still chucked on the lathe, glue each surface and fit the bowl back together using the dowels to keep everything in place. Clean up glue using q-tips. Let the glue dry for 24 hours. Then turn the inside of the bowl and finish by turning off the tenon.

### **Project 3: Flying Buttress Bowl**

Start by making a tall goblet/vase. Complete the entire project. Sand and finish. Now turn two tenons using a parting tool, one at the top and one at the bottom of the goblet. Fit post clamps to these to hold the project together once it is deconstructed.

Attach a chuck to the top of the goblet. Carefully measure the cuts you will need to split the vase. You need to evaluate the piece and determine the best place for ribs to be added and the number of ribs to add. This can be quarters, halves, thirds, etc. Use a protractor to determine the placement of the rib and mark the base with a pencil.

Mount the piece onto the jig mentioned in the previous project.

Carefully cut the vase in sections using the band saw with a half inch blade and fine tooth count to get a smooth cut. Band saw cuts have kerf and drift so a disk sander or hand sanding is needed to even out the cut.

Get a piece of veneer accurately milled to 1/8 inch. Sand and finish it. Shape the piece using a band saw. Any shape can work as long as it is wider than the goblet. Glue the rib back into the goblet using the top and bottom post clamps to secure the goblet. Wipe away excess glue with q-tips. When dry make the next cut and repeat the process.

When done fitting in buttresses, remount onto lathe. Turn down the tenon on top being careful not to hit the buttresses. Part off bottom tenon.