

BAY AREA



WOODTURNERS
ASSOCIATION
A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT CORPORATION
LOCAL CHAPTER AAW

July 2014

Volume 18, Issue 7

July 12 Meeting

BAWA Turn for Troops Event

What began as a program to provide one-of-a-kind wooden pens to American troops for Christmas has grown each year, with many Woodcraft stores now holding turn-a-thons throughout the year so that pens are shipped to service personnel contacts as often as supplies allow. Pens are distributed to American service personnel on active duty or in rehabilitation facilities in the US. The 10,678 pens turned last year brought the **grand total for nine years to 97,717!!**

Volunteer turners, who include the public and Woodcraft employees, are asked to write personal notes to go along with their one-of-a-kind writing instruments and express their appreciation to the recipients for service to their country.

Among the recent thank-you notes from pen recipients is one from the executive officer for a medical unit stationed in Afghanistan that underscores the reason for the program. "We were honored to receive some of your wooden pens the other day, and they were a HIT! Thank you for your support of the United States Armed Forces and your continuing commitment to being 'Made in the USA!' It's great to receive gifts from the home front and to know that someone somewhere is thinking about us."

Another note came from a soldier serving in the Army and stationed in South Korea. "It was a pleasant surprise to receive such a fine pen," he wrote. "I can assure you it is greatly appreciated."

BAWA members can participate in this worthy cause as well on Saturday July 12th after show-and-tell we will clear the chairs and fire up the lathes. Pen kits have been provided by Woodcraft, pen blanks have been provided MacBeath Hardwoods and are prepared and are ready to be turned. If you are a pen turner please join us for this event and if you never turned a pen, but want to learn, instructors will be available. We have 20 lathes available for pen turning and our goal is to turn and finish 125 pens for the TROOPS. For everyone's safety please bring a pair of safety glasses or a face shield, as we have a limited supply on hand and eye protection be required while in the woodturning studio for the event. There will also be a BAWA sponsored barbeque during the event as well.



(Photos Courtesy of Woodcraft)



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, use store and library, swap ideas, view displays

9:30—12:30 meeting and demo

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

See <http://bayareawoodturners.org> for directions and club information.

BAWA Officers Meeting -

Officer meetings are open to all members. Contact [Bill Mellberg](#) if you would like to be on the agenda.

2014 Event Schedule

July 12th	Pens for Troops: The Club Will Be Turning Pens for a Great Cause
Aug 16th	BBQ
Sept 13th	Jerry Kermode
Oct 11th	Larry Lew-Pyrography Illusion
Dec	Xmas Party

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.

President
Bill Mellberg
wjmellberg@comcast.net

Vice President
John Cobb
Cobbemail@gmail.com

Secretary
David Fleisig
dhfleisig@yahoo.com

Treasurer
Joel Albert
joelalb@yahoo.com

Member at Large
Kathy Kennedy
kkdp54@gmail.com

Pleasant Hill Adult Education (PHAE) Liaison
Jim Rodgers
Jlrogers236@comcast.net

Librarian
Cindy Navarro
Navaluni@comcast.net

Membership Co-chairs
Hugh Bevin-Thomas, Karen Rice & Ed Steffinger
ahbt@sbcglobal.net ,
karen@loonlover.net ,
ersteffinger@yahoo.com

Store Manager
Richard Kalish
rikalish@yahoo.com

Webmaster
Jeff Tanner
jtanner@gschq.com

Newsletter Editor
Louie Silva
banjohead@comcast.net

Audio Visual
Bruce Speights & Larry Brooks
retired6302004@yahoo.com ,
ibgolfing@sbcglobal.net

Woodmeister
Tony Wolcott
twolcott@albanvca.org

Educational Coordinator
Jan Blumer
jacquesblumer@hotmail.com

Pro Demonstrator Liaison
John Cobb
Cobbemail@gmail.com

Staff Photographer
David Fleisig
dhfleisig@yahoo.com

Social Coordinator
TBA

June Demo a Cut Above the Others...with a Chain Saw!

Tony Wolcott and John Cobb entertained the membership at our June meeting with a spirited discussion and presentation: From Log to Lathe. The bay is home to a rich diversity of trees well suited for woodturning. That combined with reduced demand for firewood makes access to green wood plentiful and free.

The BAWA website has great information on the location of arborist woodpiles spread throughout the East Bay. Periodically driving by a couple locations by will certainly yield great finds that will keep you turning beautiful defect free wood. If you haven't started your dry bowl library yet now is a great time. If you put a couple rough turned bowls away each month soon you will have a great supply of dry bowls to turn for gifts or use in the kitchen. Roughing out bowls is also a great way to work on tool control, riding the bevel and final cuts. No one ever complained they have too many roughed out bowls. If you end up in the enviable position of excess roughed out bowls, the school programs are always looking for classroom stock. See John Cobb or Jan Blumer to coordinate a drop-off.



The second half of the presentation focused on chainsaw use and safety. Tony did a fantastic job presenting best practices for using a chainsaw safely. Gas and electric saws used properly open up an endless supply of green wood. If you decide to investigate chainsaws, get a good brand — Husky, Stihl or Jorgensen will last a lifetime. Big box store brands are less reliable. Learning how to sharpen a chain takes about an hour of watching Youtube videos which will save you a lot of time and money. Like woodturning, a sharp tool is the safest tool. A full copy of Tony's chainsaw discussion will be in the DVD library. Check it out.

The presentation also covered how to properly cut logs to maximize the blank size while avoiding the pith and other irregularities. See the BAWA website for copies of the slide show and other useful information. Based on the positive feedback on the presentation, The Diablo Woodturning school will have a 2 day chainsaw class this fall. More details to follow.

Is anyone interested in running a green wood SIG to meet at woodpiles once a month? See John Cobb and let's get it started.

Thanks to all those who provided feedback, especially the positive ones! 😊 If you have any ideas for other presentation topics please send them along.



President's Message

June 2014



June was a busy month with our regular meeting on the 7th followed by the AAW Symposium in Phoenix the next weekend. I want to thank both Tony Wolcott and John Cobb for conducting an outstanding club demonstration with lots of good info on green wood processing and chain saw safety.

Several members of BAWA were in attendance at AAW starting on June 13th. More than 1100 AAW members attended this years show and exhibition that was at the Phoenix Center in downtown. Thankfully it was a short walk to the convention center from the hotel and the temperatures were reasonable for early June. I thought the demonstrations were very good and some of the most popular ones occurred at different times over the 2 ½ day event. The exhibit hall seemed busy every day with sellers and buyers exchanging tools for money. The Instant gallery had some of the best work I've seen from the woodturning community. I also attended the Presidents meeting on Saturday and summarized my notes in a separate article in this month's newsletter.

Jim Rodgers "Summer Masters Series" has two outstanding professional turners that will be featured this year. Mike Mahoney will be conducting a class from July 7-10 and Jerry Kermode will be conducting his class the following week July 14-17. If you would like to sign up please contact Jim at this address:

REGISTER AT: www.jlrogers.com

On July 2nd we had a club work party to help a past member (Michael Carraher) clean some of the wood out of his shop. I want to thank all of those volunteers who responded as we had more helpers than we needed to complete the task. The club will place most of Michael's wood in the July wood raffle, so bring some cash and buy a ticket on the 12th.

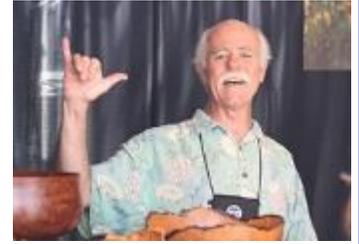
Our July meeting will be a fun and informative get-together, especially if you have never turned and assembled a pen. Our "Turn for the Troops" meeting will allow BAWA members an opportunity to make a pen that will be sent to a soldier serving our country as a thank you gift for their sacrifice. Jeff Tanner has already prepared all of the wood blanks and Jim Rodgers has graciously allowed the club to use his school lathes and pen mandrels to turn 125 pens for this cause. John Cobb is planning an informal BBQ to allow members to have a snack and socialize with their friends if they are not turning or assembling pens. The club is making an appeal to all members to bring in their **pen press** if they own one to help assemble the kits after completing the turning and finishing operations.

Locally there are on-going events and up-coming shows that you may want to visit to see member turned pieces on display. There is a display at the Orinda Library of MDAE instructor turned pieces and coming August 8-10th the American Craft Council (ACC) will have its show at Fort Mason in San Francisco. The BAWA August meeting will be on Saturday the 16th to accommodate those that want to be involved with the ACC show and because Pleasant Hill Park had been previously booked for an event. The Adult Education facility will be closed for the month of August for summer vacation. We will resume our normal meeting schedule in September with Jerry Kermode as our Pro-demonstrator.

*Respectfully,
Bill Mellberg, BAWA President*

Jerry Kermode Visits BAWA in September

Our September meeting will feature yet another renown name in woodturning : Jerry Kermode. Jerry is a founding member of AAW and is known world wide for his dramatic thin walled redwood burl bowls. Jerry has developed a number of techniques including wood stitches that can augment many pieces. In addition to a very impressive resume, Jerry is an excellent instructor with a great sense of humor. This meeting will definitely be a highlight for the 2014 calendar.



BAWA Work Party Thank You!

On Wednesday July 2nd a group of BAWA members met at the MDAE facility and carpooled up to Martinez to collect wood from Michael Carraher's shop for the school and club. I would like to thanks Michael for his generous donation of wood and also thank the volunteers for their time and energy to move the wood from the shop to the school. I actually received replies to help from more people than we had room for, which was very encouraging.

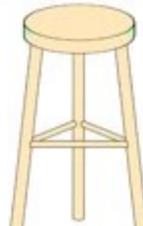


Special Thanks to: Ros Harper, Patrick Blank, David Crady, John Hile and Tim Kennedy and back-up volunteers, Arturo Gomez, Gary Hargrave and David Fleisig.

Thanks for a job well done!

Bill

**WOODWORKING
IS THE CURE FOR**



LOOSE STOOLS.



Trees of the Bay Area #5 Quercus rubra Red Oak

By John Doyen and Tony Wolcott

There is more confusion in identifying oaks than any other species. There are more than 450 *Quercus* species and they have a habit of cross breeding to produce who knows what – see the Oracle oak for example. Some of the confusion disappears if you deal with native stands of *Quercus agrifolia* (coast live oak) or *Quercus lobata* (valley oak) or *Quercus kelloggii* (black oak). Then confusing again with local patches of blue oak, interior live oak, mall oak, and gold cup oak. There are many common landscape oaks brought in from various parts of the world, but very much at home in California – cork oak (*Quercus suber*), pin oak (*Quercus palustris*), holly oak (*Quercus ilex*), and the tree of this month the red oak (*Quercus rubra*).



Oaks are commonly identified through their leaf shape, leaf margins and by the acorn produced. All oak leaves are arranged alternately along the shoot and dormant lateral buds are clustered just below the terminal bud at the end of twigs. Oaks are monoecious, with both male and female flowers on the same tree. Female flowers are wind pollinated and produce an acorn (a dry fruit). Some acorns are produced in one year, other oaks produce acorns in two years. Some trees are erroneously called oaks such as silk oak, poison oak, and she oaks. However, tan oak is closely related to oaks, but not quite an oak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*). The Fagaceae family includes all oaks, tan oaks and beeches.



Not to add salt to the wound but Oaks are divided further – *Quercus* is divided into sub-genera, the important one being *Quercus* and it is subdivided into lineages. Within a lineage those oaks can hybridize. The two largest lineages are White Oak (*Quercus*) and Red Oak (*Lobatae*). White oaks have acorns that mature in the first season and the inside of the shell is smooth. White oaks are not susceptible to Sudden Oak Death (*Phytophthora ramorum*), red oaks are susceptible. Red oaks have acorns that mature in two years except for coast live oak, and the inside of the acorn shell is wooly.

Continued on following page...

Oaks are a study to themselves, and if you go into the lore and economic importance of oaks, there will be no end to the oaks. Historically oaks have been a source of sustenance to various peoples, and oak pastures have fed cattle, sheep and especially pigs. The acorn is that valuable. But the many uses of oak wood are legendary: flooring, wine vats, railroad ties, boat masts, handles and of course oak bowls. This is the tip of the iceberg in talking about the usefulness of the oak, and the spiritual importance of this tree 'Strong as an oak'.



The wood itself has many spectacular attributes and faults as well. Red oak's specific gravity is .63 or 63% the weight of water. All oaks are ring porous. With the naked eye you can see the large pores on the early wood growth. A hand lens helps and will illuminate the late growth pores that are smaller and typically arranged in radial lines, an excellent way of identifying red oaks. The other well known attribute of all oaks are the large multiseriate rays, visible to the naked eye and best illustrated with a handcut thin section from the radial face.

There are so many oaks, red or white, tree or shrub, native or not; difficult to make generalizations about turning aspects, but here goes. Oaks are all a delight to turn, hard, durable but can be worked successfully especially green. Natural edge bowls are encouraged with *Quercus suber* (cork oak) as good testament. Oak does not out-sparkle other woods but finishes to an average luster. Oak can be looked at as a workhorse of woods. Red oak is easy to turn and does not move as much as say *Quercus agrifolia* (coast live oak). Oak is not easy to dry and develops some deep cracks that often have to be worked around. Any oak is worth trying. I have enough red oak to stock my bowls and plates and cups and 'silverware'. You can finish with oils or for a lasting product wipe on poly works well.



Pomona Oak
Quercus agrifolia



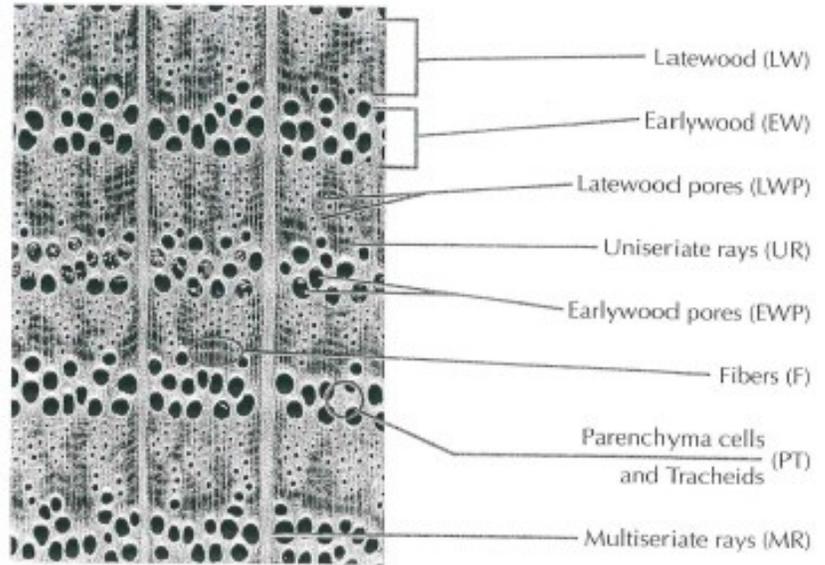
Cork Oak
Quercus Suber

All photos courtesy of
selectree.com

Continued on following page...

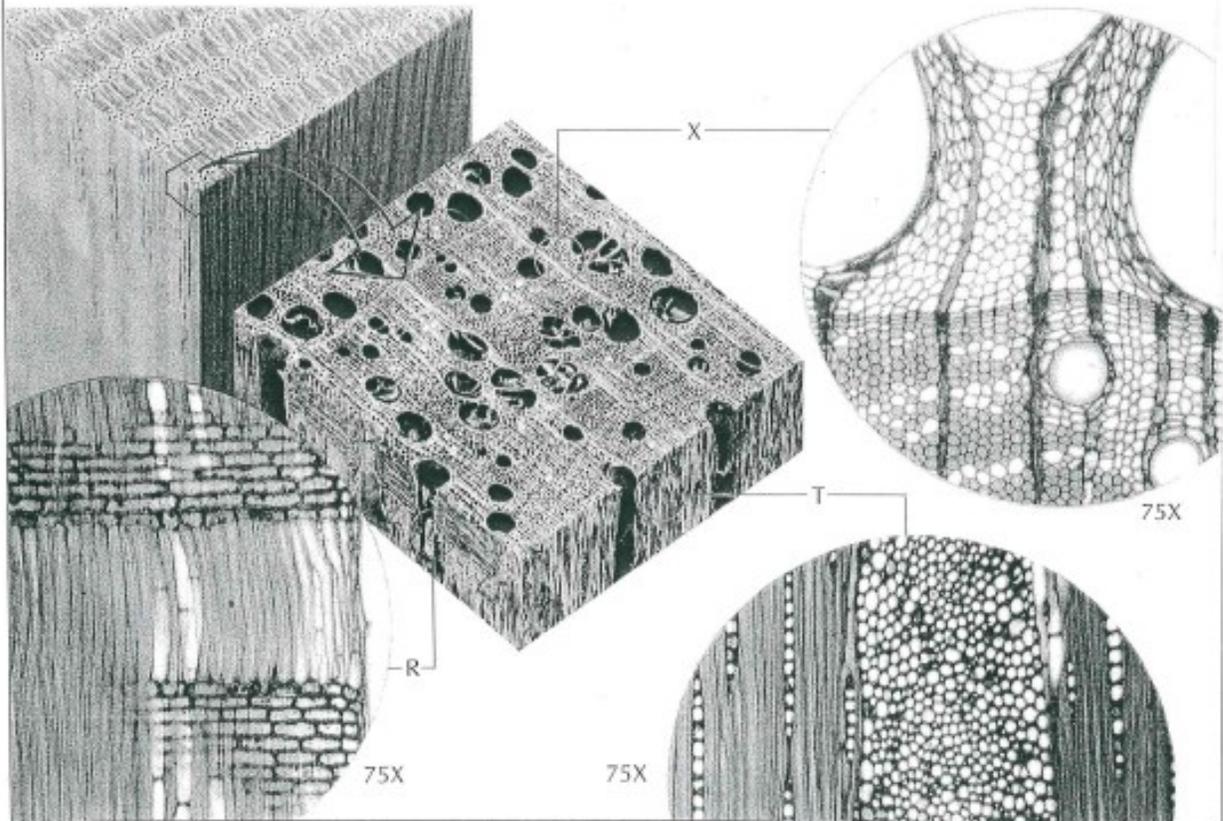
INTRODUCTORY VIEW OF HARDWOOD ANATOMY: RED OAK

This is a cross-sectional surface of northern red oak as seen with a hand lens. Within each growth ring, the first-formed earlywood is clearly defined by a zone of large pores, followed by latewood with its smaller pores. Other visible features include large multiseriate rays, narrow uniseriate rays, lighter-colored masses of mixed parenchyma cells and tracheids and darker masses of fibers.



TRANSVERSE, RADIAL AND TANGENTIAL SURFACES OF RED OAK

The circled insets show, from left to right, typical handcut thin sections from the cross-sectional (X), radial (R) and tangential (T) surfaces as viewed for identification under a standard microscope.



Orinda Library Gallery Features the work of the Mt. Diablo Woodturning Center

The staff of the Mt Diablo Woodturning Center was invited to present their work in the gallery at the Orinda Civic Library for the month of July. The gallery is adjacent to the library entrance and open during normal library hours to everyone. Please come by and view this display of more than 150 turned works.

An artists' reception is planned for July 19th 3:30 – 5:30 PM. This is an occasion to meet the artists, discuss their work, visit with other attendees and discuss the upcoming classes planned for fall, 2014.

Turned works are on display by:

Joel Albert Ros Harper
Jan Blumer Bob Nolan
John Cobb Jim Rodgers
Dave Fleisig

Mt Diablo Woodturning Center Summer Masters' Series begins

The first of this year's classes with Mike Mahoney begin on July 7th with 12 participants coring, hollowing, thread chasing and a lot of other activities. This four day class open this year's season which will be capped by the second great week with Jerry Kermode – recognizably one of the most experienced and well know teacher of woodturning g in the USA.. There are still a few opening in the Jerry Kermode class for the last minute sign up at \$425. For four days. Interested? Go to www.jlrogers.com and sign up.

Jim Rodgers

CRAFT SUPPLIES 10% DISCOUNT ORDER

The 10% discount applies to any published price (including sale items, close-outs, etc.) and there are no tax or S&H charges. You can find full on the Craft Supplies Club 10% Discount Program in the April 2012 newsletter.

Craft Supplies has a new catalog that includes new items, and there have been some price increases as well. Look on-line to pick your loot and check prices.

Orders are placed with Norm Robinson by e-mail: (normrobinson@hotmail.com)

- Fill out an electronic order form which Norm can e-mail to you
- Send Norm the pertinent information.
- Catalog item number, catalog page number if possible,
- Item description
- Quantity ordered and the total price before 10% discount. Please don't use old catalogs as the prices will be incorrect
- Call Norm (415-420-3492) to place an order and follow up with an e-mail to confirm all the information required.
- If you have already placed an order you might send Norm e-mail reminder.

AAW Chapters Meeting

Held Saturday June 14, 2014 at the Phoenix Convention Center

The National Board of Directors, Executive Director and Chapter Presidents met for 2 hours to discuss the current status of the Association and the goals for future chapter growth and improved communication.

The national organization has improved its financial base with a net gain of \$175K in working capital for 2013. Last year's membership was 15,187 with more than 300 active chapters in all 50 states. At the beginning of this year there was a slight decline in membership that the leadership is examining. The response to the chapter leader survey in 2013 was outstanding.



As part of the effort to understand the feedback a 2014 "Member Working Group" was created to reduce the data and examine the metrics associated with the responses. Most of the findings were published in an April 2014 report that was distributed to chapter leaders and is also available to the membership on the AAW website. Key Findings focus on improved two way communication between the national organization and the chapters. The national organization needs to identify "services" it can help chapters with such as defining the process to obtain 501c Non-Profit status. It can also identify techniques to grow membership along with clearly identifying the "value" and "services" that AAW membership brings, other than receiving the Journal 6 time a year. The chapters also need to do a better job with internal communication, passing along AAW information and services via newsletters and websites.

Some new ideas AAW is interested in promoting are: Establish a Safety Officer for each chapter; develop a uniform set of "Best Practices" for each chapter; assemble a welcome/information kit for new Presidents and Officers that helps them be more effective; publish a regional list of potential demonstrators to have at future meetings. Other ideas to incentivize chapter members to join AAW, are to have member discounts through merchants that sell tools and supplies. Other discussed topics were about the two tier insurance that the national organization offers.

Additionally is there interest in establishing a chapter presence on "Facebook" for Presidents to exchange ideas and problems. A national web based newsletter exchange could be established where other chapters could view local newsletters to get new ideas. The national exchange could help encourage and coordinate shared demonstrators that visit areas where multiple chapters are in close proximity.

*If **you** have ideas on how to make our chapter or national organization more relevant to you needs, please communicate your ideas to local officers or directly to AAW.*

*This is a summary of my notes taken at this meeting and is **not** a complete overview of all the items discussed. National will place a copy of the slides and data that was presented at this meeting on their website for your review.*

Bill Mellberg, President, BAWA



Link of the Month



As discussed at the June meeting, here is a video titled:

The Intricacies of Spalting.

To view video, cut and paste address below:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fWedsgkoxYY>

Link submitted by: Tim Kennedy

Do you have a favorite website you think BAWA members would find interesting and informative? If so, then please send us the website name, address and a few sentences about why you think the website is cool!

Send info to: [Louie Silva](#)

Annual Club BBQ in August

One of the highlights of our upcoming BBQ in August will be our Tool SWAP and Shop Sale. This is a great opportunity to clean out your shop and sell or trade any tools, gear or wood that you have with other BAWA members.



Last year I scored big time, lot's of great bargains that I have enjoyed using throughout the year. This year, I hope it will be even better—you never know what someone will bring to the tables to sell. So now is the time to start going through your shop and pulling together treasures to sell or swap.

~Joel Albert

Library News:

Just a notice to ask everyone to check their shops and homes to see if they have any library materials that are overdue.

I would also like to announce that there are now many of the older video tapes that have been converted to DVD. I will be working to get them labeled and put into circulation as fast as I can.

*Cindy Navarro
Librarian*

BAWA Classified Ads



We want members and others with items to sell or trade, services to render or if you're just looking to find a specific item from fellow BAWA members. Please send ads to Louie Silva at: banjohead@comcast.net.

You can't beat the price...FREE!!

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 either club president or newsletter editor
Bill Mellberg or Louie Silva
Email: jbmellberg@comcast.net Email: banjohead@comcast.net

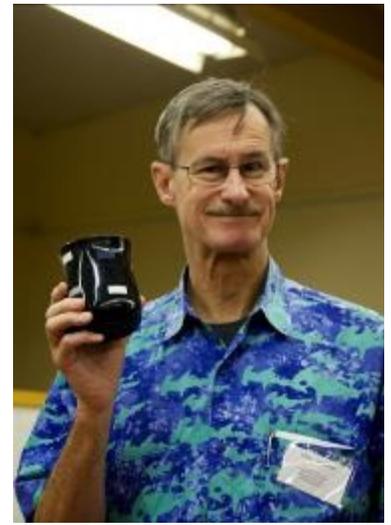
June Show and Tell



Tim Kennedy-Bristlecone Pine Bowl



Avi Ben-Ova- Sea Urchin Shell Simulation



Mike Lanahan-Segmented Corian Kitchen Brush Holder



Corwin Jones-Peppermill



Brad Adams-Natural Edge Madrone Bowl



Bob Bean-Peppermill



Gary Bingham-Small Platter



Bob Nolan-Pen Made From Liquid Amber Seeds



John Lawson-Peppermill