

BAWA Hosts Ashley Harwood
Saturday, April 9th
8:30 to 4:00

The Bay Area Woodturners is proud to present Ashley Harwood who will demonstrate at our April 9 meeting from 8:30 until 4:00 p.m. Harwood designs and crafts bowls, jewelry and ornaments made with sea urchins and delicate spindles of ebony. She uses salvaged wood, much of which comes from her area. The elegant shapes she creates are influenced by her past in glasswork. “When I make a bowl, I’m very particular about the curve. It has to feel perfect. Our hands can pick up on subtleties that our eyes miss, so I am constantly running my hand inside the bowl to check that the curve is flawless—it should be uninterrupted, fluid, and totally smooth. I think that the feel of the wood is so much a part of what people fall in love with,” she says.



Harwood will begin her BAWA presentation by talking about the tools she uses - how they are sharpened and what their benefits are. This theme will continue throughout the demo. She encourages questions on this topic, too!

She will cover all of the fundamental cuts in spindle turning before showing how she makes one of the finials on her sea urchin ornaments. Next, she will show how she uses these same cuts on a bowl, with a tall-shaped push cut bowl. By using the same cuts that we use in spindle turning, she can create a flowing shape with a finish straight off of the gouge that is ready for 150 to 180 grit sandpaper. If time permits, she will also show how to turn a few simple shaped beads for jewelry as well as some assembly techniques.

She will talk about how she can get different grain patterns in her bowls depending on how she cuts the wood out of the tree. She will touch on the drying process, although hers may be very different from ours due to different woods and a different climate. Lastly, she will talk about the aesthetic side of what we do - how do you create a pleasing form and how to add simple turned design elements to your bowls and other work that can help it to stand out.





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

9:00—12:30 meeting and demo

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

See bayareawoodturners.org/ 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.

2016 Event Schedule

April 9th	Ashley Harwood 8:30-4:00
May 12th	Utah Symposium
May 21st	Pat Johnson 8:30-4:00
June 4th	Brad Adams 8:30-12:00
July 9th	Turn for the Troops 8:30-12:00
August 13th	Picnic 10:00-2:00
September	TBA
October 23rd (Sunday)	Art Liestman 8:30-4:00
November	TBA
December	Holiday Party (Details to Come)

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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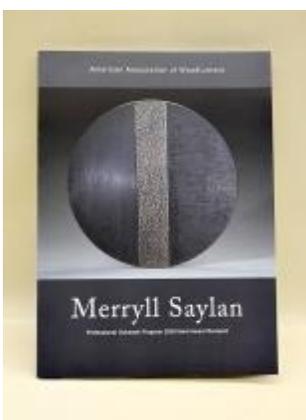
Merryll Saylan Shares a Life of Woodturning with BAWA Members

Merryll Saylan has been turning wood since the mid 70's. She is a founding member of the AAW, one of the first woman turners, and a founding member of BAWA.

Her life and work are documented in the Smithsonian Archives of American Art, and her artwork is held in the collections of many major museums, including the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Smithsonian's Renwick Gallery, and Yale University Art Gallery. At our March meeting Merryll reflected on her work, the evolution of wood turning, and women in turning.



Merryll was more interested in breaking than following the rules of woodturning. Her approach to turning is artistic. "I envision what a piece will be, and then I make it." She begins with the intention and expression she wants to achieve rather than following what nature dictates. With her artistic approach and maverick lack for rules, she was one of the first turners to use color, texturing, burning, and other techniques to make her blocks of wood into art forms. Central to her technique are: Form; Contrast; Texture; and Color. She chooses wood that doesn't detract from the form. Wood that complements the designs she is creating.



When she came from art school there were very few women turners. "What do I want to make? What can I make that could be useful? I made rice bowls". She went to craft shows and sold her work, but she was never part of the "in" group. That group of turners was all male. At this stage of her career she was a successful turner. She joined the fledgling AAW. She taught and demonstrated, but was still on the outside. It took her a long time to break into that male dominated group.

Merryll concentrates on a particular form; be it platters or bowls. She perfects the turning of the form. Then she lets her creativity take over. In her platter series she first scorches the wood, then dyes it black, then adds embellishments using angle grinders and carvers. Each platter is unique. Her collection of bowls on display at the U.S. embassy in Fiji contains 15 bowls, but each is uniquely turned, colored and textured.

Many of Merryll's works are combinations of platters, bowls, and other forms arrayed together as sets. A set can be as small as 2 objects or as large as 30. The idea of sets came to her because as a beginning turner she couldn't afford to throw any wood away. So if she was turning bowls, she would make small bowls out of the corners she trimmed off the bowl blanks. When put together these sets were unique and appealed to her artistic mind set.



Most of Merryll's ideas originate as sketches. How pleasing would it be to have a large bowl with a small base? What about a small bowl with a large base? Sketching is a way to see the outcome before starting to turn. Sketching also offers a template to follow while turning so that mistakes are minimized. And sketches can show what colors are complimentary or discordant on a particular shape. She has used dye, glaze and milk paint to accentuate the colors of her pieces but reminded us that no matter what you do, grain pattern still shows so wood selection is important even if covered by color. She uses dremel burrs as carvers. She makes her own face plates using stainless steel screws to hold wood in place. She finishes her work with oil based finishes like Watco Danish Oil and Liberon.

At this stage in her career Merryll is "just having fun". She doesn't have to "crank out" work for craft fairs anymore. She loves to cook and entertain, and enjoys sharing food and conversation with many artists in the Bay Area. She has three adult children, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Tips and Techniques

Working with different glues it is important to understand how to use them and what one is better than another.

CA comes in many viscosities and can be very useful for ensuring that cracks don't become larger, helping keep the bark on a natural edge piece, and as a finish.

Some tips for working with CA:

- 1) Make sure that the wood is dry as water is a catalyst for CA and will cause it to harden quickly.
- 2) If you are doing a project with CA and wish for it to harden use baking soda. Apply the CA and then sprinkle it with baking soda. The baking soda will cause the CA to harden very quickly and without any foaming or becoming brittle.
- 3) If using it as a finish. Make sure that the wood is sanded well because the marks will definitely show through the CA when it is dry so sand up through 600. Use either a small plastic bag, closed cell packing material cut into strips or small pieces of folded paper towel. **DO NOT USE CLOTH OF ANY TYPE.** Apply multiple layers being patient to allow each layer to dry. If you use accelerator and you spray it to close or too much you will get a clouding effect and have to begin over after sanding it back down to bare wood.

If you are working with epoxy it is a good idea to have a spray bottle of 91% Isopropyl alcohol and some paper towels handy. The alcohol can be used to clean up any squeeze out and to clean up your bench and hands. It will even clean up dried epoxy with a little scrubbing.

If you are using Gorilla glue it is important to use it sparingly as it does foam and can push pieces apart if they are not clamped correctly. If you get it on your hands it can be difficult to get it off. I suggest wearing gloves that fit well and somewhat tightly. When using this glue I wear a size smaller so I have better feeling and less mess.

Last, but not least, is wood glue. It is important to not apply too much or you will have difficulty with squeeze out. If you do have squeeze out, then wait until it has set up slightly and use a plastic scraper to remove it. If you use a wet paper towel to clean it up you will dilute the glue and it will get into the pores of the wood and make it much more difficult to clean up, especially if you want to stain the piece.



by Cindy Navarro

Book Review

My review this month is of the book, "The Fundamentals of Woodturning" by Mike Darlow. It is a book that beginning turners will find very helpful.

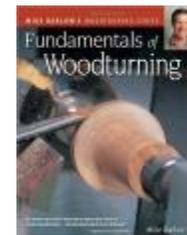
It is however, a book that the seasoned turner will find very useful. It has several sections:

- 1) Different techniques of using scrapers and gouges, with exercises to improve one's abilities
- 2) Designing your pieces
- 3) Using chucks and faceplates
- 4) Consistent duplications of furniture pieces, spindles, etc.
- 5) How to make thin walled pieces.

The pictures are clear and concise with good explanations and allow the reader to clearly see what is being discussed and use it to ensure that tool handling and cutting is essentially the same.

The language of the book is clear and concise and I think that the reader/turner will find this book very useful and it would make a good reference book to have in the shop for future use.

I encourage each of you to utilize this great resource that we have available to us and to check out either a book or DVD that you do not know. You might find yourself surprised by what you learn.



Membership News

By Tim Kennedy

Membership Update

BAWA has 129 paid-up members for 2016 and 6 life members. "Directory" under the Members tab on the BAWA website has information on BAWA members. For example, you can use Advanced Search to find members in your area to car pool to meetings.

Tim



Presidential Ramblings

April 2016



While perusing the AAW website, I found some interesting articles and videos that are definitely worth a look. The first on the dangers of CA glue, is probably the most controversial, and worth a little more research to double check it's validity. Many of us use CA glue frequently and know the acrid vapors that are emitted when drying - which I was told repeatedly were highly toxic. Turns out Rob Wallace PhD from Iowa State University says differently. If someone want to check into this topic and report back I would appreciate it.

CA Glue

CA glues normally are considered lacrymators (inducing tears and excessive tearing through conjunctival irritation), and CA is known to be a respiratory irritant (which is why increased ventilation is recommended with its use). It is not known to be a carcinogen. (No mention of this in the MSDS for cyanoacrylate adhesives.) It probably is most dangerous for its physical effects of gluing body parts together, or worse, getting uncured glue in the eye. The exothermic (heat generating) reaction CA glue also produces as it rapidly cures can also cause first and second degree burns (blistering of skin) under glue-curing conditions on the skin (I have personally experienced a blistering burn from CA curing on the skin).

~ Rob Wallace PhD, Iowa State University, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology. Rob is a board member of Ames Area Woodturners and past AAW board member.~

The AAW website also has a great list of videos that are available on demand. A few of the topics: beading tools, chucks, human powered lathe, turning a pill box, segmenting, and sharpening. There are plenty more topics along with galleries of work for inspiration. Recently AAW has made an effort to provide better and more usable information to members - it's worth taking a second look.

<http://www.woodturner.org/?page=AAWVideo>

Paul Litzky has put together a great lineup of presenters for the next three months. Ashley Harwood, an excellent turner who has demonstrated at numerous symposiums, will be give us a full day demonstration on April 9th. Following Ashley in May is Australian Pat Johnson who does very creative work - you can see more at: <http://patjohnsoncreative.com.au> .

Then we are fortunate to bring back BAWA's Brad Adams who is ascending the ranks as one of the top production bowl turners in the country. His work isn't the standard 25 minute factory bowl, rather he strives for perfection on each bowl which is impressive. I have turned a few bowls but each time I see Brad I learn something new - make sure to arrive early to get a good seat.

Bring a piece for show and tell, and remember the wood raffle is a fantastic way to support the club. So please bring a few pieces of wood or buy a couple tickets - it's always fun to be involved.

I look forward to seeing everyone on Saturday.

Keep turning!

John Cobb

President

Bay Area Woodturners Association

Pat Johnson Visits BAWA in May

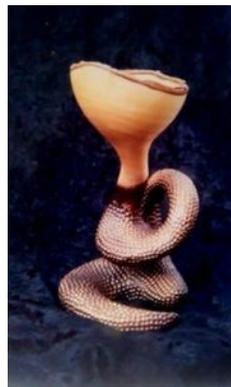
Pat Johnson will be the Bay Area Woodturners presenter at our May meeting. Please note the meeting will be held Saturday May 21 from 8:30 to 4:00 p.m. This change allows BAWA members to attend the Utah Symposium without missing the May meeting.



Pat has demonstrated turning across the country and at the AAW and Utah symposium. He is currently teaching woodturning at the John C. Campbell folk school in Brasstown, North Carolina.

Pat talks about his interest in woodturning:

"Art, Physical Education and Woodwork were my favourite subjects during my school days and now, reflecting back on the jobs I have been employed in, the ones I enjoyed most had something to do with these subjects. I was introduced to woodturning by my father-in-law whilst serving in the Royal Australian Air Force in the early 1990's. As my interest for turning grew, I became intrigued by how I could be totally absorbed in an activity that not only produced an item that could be used in everyday life, but the activity itself could take me away from the pressures of everyday life."



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) 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.

March Show and Tell



Brad Adams-
Hollow Forms



Mark Knize-
Wooden Rock



Steve Smyers-
Hollow Form



Alan Thomas-
Apricot Bowl



Donna Lauzon-
Natural Edged Walnut
Bowl



Harry Levin-
Dyed Bowl



(Continued on following page)

*March Show and Tell
Continued*

Harvey Klein-
Walnut Plate



Joel Albert-
Platter



Avi Ben-Ora-
Anniversary Card



Ryan Quirk-
Candlestick & Koa Bowl



David Fleisig-
"Split" Bowl &
2 Square Platters



David Plemons-
Redwood Vases



News From April 1, 2016

BAWA and Elon Musk bring woodturning to Mars



Elon Musk, Tesla and Space X CEO have teamed up with the Bay Area Woodturners Association to bring woodturning to Mars.

Musk, a woodturning advocate for many years, is pioneering tourist travel to Mars and plans to make woodturning one of primary activities available to astro-tourists on the way to and from the distant planet.

Since it will take up to three years to reach Mars, Musk says, we want creative activities on board the rocket to keep our customers mentally sharp. Woodturning is perfect because it combines creative and physical activities in one event.

Turning in a weightless environment will be an interesting challenge, as chips will not fall to the ground. Space X engineers will likely put a 4 inch vent in the side of the ship to open and suck all the floating debris outside where the rocket engine will immediately incinerate the chips. We created the most powerful shop vac and it doesn't take electricity - another successful product in our attempt to be good environmental stewards even in space - according to Musk.

Musk envisions selling a new line of gouges based on new stellar metallurgy technology that will be infinitely lighter but yet not lose an edge for the entire voyage to Mars. I am so proud of what our Astrophysicist engineers have accomplished in the field of woodturning and look forward to the first "show" ever held on the planet of Mars.

BAWA - Space X news briefing: 4/1/2016

April Tools

Brad Adams is the rep for a new turning system that really cuts down on dust and clean-up. We hope to stock a few units in the store this month and he will demo the system in June. It's definitely worth a look:



[Woodturning Mask](http://www.axminster.co.uk/all-new-evolution-virtual-woodturning-mask?utm_source=bronto&utm_medium=email&utm_term=Image++Watch+the+video&utm_content=All+New+Evolution+Virtual+Woodturning+Mask&utm_campaign=16wk13rh1_april_fools#view-video)

(Cut and Paste Link Below)

http://www.axminster.co.uk/all-new-evolution-virtual-woodturning-mask?utm_source=bronto&utm_medium=email&utm_term=Image++Watch+the+video&utm_content=All+New+Evolution+Virtual+Woodturning+Mask&utm_campaign=16wk13rh1_april_fools#view-video

DON'T FORGET!

Bring some of that wood you have taking up space in your shop to share in our monthly raffle.



Some of the BAWA Family That Makes This the Best Club in The Country!

