

BAY AREA



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

July 2017

Volume 21, Issue 7

## Turn for Troops in July

The July meeting is our fourth annual Turn for Troops event. This is a great opportunity for club members to come in and turn pens that will be donated to US troops serving out of the country.



If you have never turned a pen before, it is a great time to learn as there will be many experienced members who are willing to give you a one on one lesson.

This year we have a goal of 170 pens and look forward to seeing everyone participating in this community service event for those who are called to serve our country.





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

### **BAWA Officers Meeting -**

Officer meetings are open to all members. Contact [Joel Albert](mailto:Joel Albert) if you would like to be on the agenda.

## 2017 Event Schedule

July 8th	Turn for Troops 8:30-12:30
Aug 6th (Sunday)	Summer Picnic 11:00-2:00
Sept 9th	Kalia Kliban-Porringer Bowl 8:30-12:30
Oct 14th	TBA
Nov 11th	TBA
Dec	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.

President  
Joel Albert  
[president@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:president@bayareawoodturners.org)

Vice President  
Jerry Jakubowski  
[vp@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:vp@bayareawoodturners.org)

Secretary  
Anna Duncan  
[secretary@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:secretary@bayareawoodturners.org)

Treasurer  
Peter Wolff  
[treasurer@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:treasurer@bayareawoodturners.org)

Member at Large  
Kim Wolfe  
[memberatlarge@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:memberatlarge@bayareawoodturners.org)

President Emeritus  
John Cobb  
[cobbemail@gmail.com](mailto:cobbemail@gmail.com)

Pleasant Hill Adult Education (PHAE) Liaison  
Jim Rodgers  
[Jlrogers236@comcast.net](mailto:Jlrogers236@comcast.net)

Librarian  
Cindy Navarro  
[librarian@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:librarian@bayareawoodturners.org)

Membership Co-chairs  
Hugh Bevin-Thomas, Karen Rice  
[membership@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:membership@bayareawoodturners.org)

Store Manager  
Richard Kalish  
[storemanager@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:storemanager@bayareawoodturners.org)

Webmaster  
Greg Ketel & John Cobb  
[webmaster@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:webmaster@bayareawoodturners.org)

Newsletter Editor  
Louie Silva  
[newslettereditor@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:newslettereditor@bayareawoodturners.org)

Audio Visual

Woodmeister

Educational Coordinator  
Jan Blumer  
[educationalcoordinator@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:educationalcoordinator@bayareawoodturners.org)

Pro Demonstrator Liaison  
John Cobb  
[Cobbemail@gmail.com](mailto:Cobbemail@gmail.com)

Staff Photographer  
Elvis Adler  
[elvisadler@gmail.com](mailto:elvisadler@gmail.com)

Social Coordinator  
TBA

## Tips and Techniques

July 2017



by Cindy Navarro

Last week I attended The AAW Woodturning Symposium in Kansas City, Missouri and I attended many demonstrations of turners new to me and some that I had seen before. I learned a lot of information and thought that I would share some of it with you because I think it might be helpful to you.

I went to several demonstrations by Al Stirt, who does some beautiful work. A tip that I learned from him was, if having trouble with tear out, to use a spray bottle with water and lightly spray the piece before the last few cuts. He believes that it lubricates the cut and he appears that he is correct. Do not saturate the piece, just use a light spray. I was able to see the piece before and after the cut and it did make a difference.

Several of the turners used grey Scotchbrite to remove the fuzz that often occurs when making beads and coves, especially when making a number of them. It cleans off the little bits and makes the surface nice and clean. Works better than steel wool and there is no danger of the iron in the steel wool becoming embedded in the wood and changing the color, of the wood, over time.

Safety was a large component of the Symposium. All of the turners wore face shields and the handbook had two full pages devoted to the subject. It is often the things that we are comfortable with that cause us to get hurt.

So as a reminder:

- Wear a face shield
- Use a filtering respirator, dust mask, or powered air filtration respirator
- Use a dust collector and/or dust extraction system
- Wear hearing protection
- Clean up the shavings to prevent slipping and getting hurt
- Have good lighting and make sure that all of your cords are in good shape
- Keep your lathe in good shape. Check for broken parts, misalignment, binding or other conditions that may have a negative affect
- Inspect your wood for defects, glue will not necessarily keep defective wood together
- Tie back long hair, beards
- Avoid loose clothing and roll up any long sleeves
- Remove jewelry that could get caught in the lathe, including rings and watches
- Check your speed before turning on the lathe, rotate the headstock to make sure the piece doesn't contact the tool rest and use an appropriate speed for the size of the piece you are turning
- Be aware of the firing zone and stand to the side of the piece when turning on the lathe or if watching another turner
- Secure tools to the tool rest before contacting the piece of wood
- Use small pieces of cloth when applying oils or finishes to the piece and do not wrap cloth around your fingers as they can be pulled into the rotating lathe
- Ensure that the tail stock and head stock are secure before starting your lathe
- Remove chuck keys, adjusting wrenches and knock out bars before starting the lathe
- Don't overreach, keep proper footing and balance
- Never run the lathe unattended and wait for it to stop before leaving it
- Stay alert and watch what you are doing. Pay close attention to any unusual sounds and stop the lathe and investigate
- Never operate machinery when you are tired or under the influence of alcohol or drugs( This means even pre-scribed medications)

You may be tired of hearing these things, but paying attention to them will hopefully prevent injury and or death.

**BE A SMART TURNER AND HAVE A GOOD TIME DOING TURNING!**

# Ruth Bancroft Garden

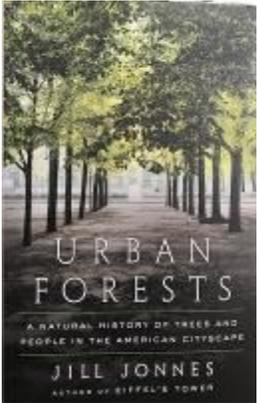
Father's Day weekend presented the initial opportunity to display the bowls created and donated by members of BAWA to the Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek. These were turned from green Deodar Cedar that we harvested from a tree that would have interfered with the building of a new visitor and demonstration building. The initial donation consisted of 12 natural edge and salad bowls from five members who were cited on a placard designed by Garden staff. Opening evening saw four items sold. Small cards were included with the sale that described the tree and our group. One bowl was the featured item in a raffle that generated significant interest and money.

Two other members have created 8 additional items that will be added to the Bancroft inventory. We look forward to more items as they are finished.

For the next two months the Garden is featuring sculptures from Bay Area artists so our items will attract good attention.



## Book Review July 2017 "Urban Forests", Jill Jonnes



by Cindy Navarro

My entire life I have been fascinated by trees. I am drawn to them by the shape of their leaves, the texture of their bark, the shade that they provide along with the cool temperatures on a warm day. I have sketched them for over 50 years and it is why I am drawn to being a wood turner.

Being a turner allows me to interact with the inside of trees and to uncover the beauty that exists within them. I am struck by their girth and height. I have traveled all over to see them in their various habitats and never cease to be in awe of how amazing and beautiful trees can be.

This is a book for people who find trees fascinating and important to our landscape and environment. It is the story of the history of trees in the urban setting. It describes how trees have survived and their importance to our urban environment and our climate. It is a fascinating history of trees from George Washington to today. How and who has battled to help them survive beetles, viruses and other calamities.

It is possible to learn so much information that is presented in an easy to read format. One could pick up the book and open to any section and read it and learn. The author includes interesting stories and provides scientific, as well as, historical information.

If you are as fascinated by trees, history and the roll of urban forests to our cities and their roll in our future then you might very well like this book.



## President's Chatter

July 2017

There is an incredible joy in turning something yourself knowing it will be given as a gift for someone special. For me it starts with a simple idea—I want to make someone a gift, something unique and from my heart. It doesn't matter if it's a pen, a hollow-form, or a magic wand, simple or complex. I just love the idea of making my own gifts and finding a unique way of saying *Thank You*. My excitement builds as I select materials, layout a design, and start to turn. Knowing that this is for someone else gives me a sense of energy and purpose that is somewhat magical. I believe that I impart some of my energy as I carefully, fit, shape, sand and finish the piece. Just a little bit of me goes with it along with the expectation of the joy of how it will be received.

### How do you feel when you make someone special a gift?

July's meting (July 8<sup>th</sup>) will be Turn for the Troops is a great opportunity to experience some of this joy for yourself. Our goal is to turn 170 pens this year and distribute them to our Armed Forces. This is especially important to me since I remember the letters I got from my sons when they were in the service. So come join us, have fun, socialize, turn some pens, and let's join together and do something good.

### CRAFT SUPPLIES 10% DISCOUNT ORDER

The 10% discount applies to any published price (including sale items, close-outs, etc.) 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.

## Article 21: Trees of the Bay Area Region by Tony Wolcott *Corymbia ficifolia* – Red Flowering Gum

This tree was formerly known as *Eucalyptus ficifolia*, and is one of the most commonly planted ornamental trees in the broader eucalypt family. It has deeply fissured dark brown bark that resembles ironbark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*), but red flowering gum has spectacular red to pinkish red blooms with fruit capsules that look like an urn, when shaken the seeds fall out easily.



The tree typically grows to a height of 2 to 10 metres (7 to 33 ft) but can reach up to 15 m (49 ft) with a width of 5 to 20 m (16 to 66 ft). The leaves are thick, dull green and with a prominent mid-rib. *Corymbia ficifolia* is a handsome solid tree with a fast growing trunk. They are quite common in the landscape.

There just is no information on this tree as far as wood properties, no pictures of bowls or any other use of the wood. This may be an impossible wood to work with, but that just makes the wood more interesting and challenging, with ample figure and reddish color, good bark for natural edges. I have never had the opportunity to work with the wood, but one of these days...



Anyone have any wood or information?

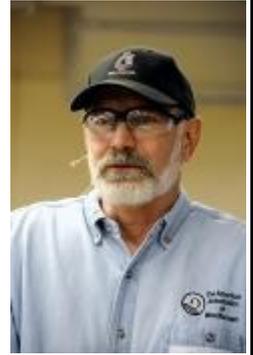
## Lego Lathe



## June's Demonstrator/Presenter: Brad Adams

Our own fellow BAWA member, Brad Adams, was the featured speaker for the June 10, 2017 meeting.

Brad goes through several tons of wood a month as a full-time woodturner, much of it being burl or highly figured wood. In his own words Brad explains, "Big bowls are my primary product, but I've got a dirty little secret. Although the big bowls are what puts money in the bank, it is the small stuff I make out of the cutoffs that pays the rent on my shop. In the process of sawing out my bowl blanks, I generate a lot of scraps - what I refer to as my 'kibbles and bits'." Brad demonstrated how to turn these kibbles and bits (i.e., his cutoffs) into bottle stoppers, ring keepers, wine bottle coasters and ikebana vases.



For the bottle stoppers, Brad begins with a  $1\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{4} \times 2$ " blank. After rough rounding it using a bowl gouge and sanding the bottom smooth, Brad drills a  $\frac{11}{32}$ " diameter hole into which he threads a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " diameter bolt (with the head cut off) into the hole. He calls this combination of blank and bolt a popsicle, which he mounts on the lathe and turns into a final shape concentrating on making into a pleasing form emphasizing the  $\frac{1}{3}$  by  $\frac{1}{3}$  by  $\frac{1}{3}$  principle, i.e., the narrow neck is  $\frac{1}{3}$  the diameter of the large bulb and the neck is  $\frac{1}{3}$  the distance from the bottom. Brad finishes the stopper with Danish Oil, lets it dry overnight and sprays it with semi-gloss Deft Lacquer. He then uses stainless steel stoppers obtained from Ruth Niles (<http://nilesbottlestoppers.com>), which he screws into the threads left from the bolt.

For the ring keepers, Brad begins with a  $2" \times 2"$  blank. After rough rounding using a bowl gouge and making a tenon, he reverses the piece on the lathe and drills a  $\frac{3}{16}$ " diameter hole into which an ebony finial will be inserted. Using a cone as a live center, he brings the tailstock up just to lightly touch the piece and refines the ring keeper into a pleasing final shape, which he calls his "I Dream of Jeannie Bottle" shape. After sanding through several grits, Brad uses a parting tool to cut off the tenon. Brad makes his finials separately with a  $\frac{3}{16}$ " stem that fits into the hole he drilled into the ring keeper. Brad finishes the ring keeper with Danish Oil, lets it dry overnight and sprays it with semi-gloss Deft Lacquer.



For wine bottle coasters, Brad begins with a blank about  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " in diameter and about 2" thick. After rough turning the blank using a screw chuck with the tailstock in place, he backs off the tailstock and makes a tenon. He then returns the tailstock to make a center mark. Brad then removes the blank from the screw chuck, reverses it and places the tenon into a chuck. He then flattens the piece and "hogs out" the center material. He cleans up the face using an "outside-in, push-cut" and refines the outside shape, i.e., the sides. Brad uses a 4" cork insert for the bottom of the coaster obtained from Consumer Crafts (<https://www.consumercrafts.com>). It is important for the insert to fit just right and, therefore, he gradually sneaks up to the final inside diameter by using a box scraper and constantly checking fitness and making the inside of the bowl with sharp edges and a rough bottom (the cork insert seems to glue better to a rough bottom!). Brad finishes the coaster with Danish Oil, lets it dry overnight and sprays it with semi-gloss Deft Lacquer.



*(Continued on following page)*

## June's Demonstrator/Presenter: Brad Adams Cont.

Brad's final demonstration was turning an Ikebana Vase. Brad said that part of the art form for these vases is to use wood that has noticeable imperfections and that a vase with imperfections sells better than a vase without imperfections. Brad's ikebana vases are squat disks with a hole in the center to accommodate a 2" pin cup purchased from Dorothy Biddle (<http://www.dorothybiddle.com>). He begins by mounting a blank, flattening the top and making a tenon. Brad reverses the blank placing the tenon in the chuck and shapes the outside of the bowl. He then makes a hole in the center to match the tapered shape of the pin cup allowing for the cup to stand about a ¼" proud and paints the inside of the hole using a black acrylic paint mixed with Plaster of Paris. Brad removes the vase from the chuck, inserts a jam chuck into the hole and removes the tenon. Again, Brad finishes the coaster with Danish Oil, lets it dry overnight and sprays it with semi-gloss Deft Lacquer.



When asked about the sales of his kibbles and bits, Brad said that his ikebana vases bring the most dollars at about \$95 each, but his bottle stoppers are his best sellers at \$25.

Brad has been turning since 1999. He says that he has benefitted tremendously from his involvement in BAWA and he wanted to give something back to the club.

I believe he did just that! Our professional demonstrators are always interesting, but sometimes beyond the abilities of some of our members. Brad's demonstration, however, was something all members will be able to attempt and, as such, his demonstration was very motivating.

Thank you, Brad, for great demonstration and for the tremendous effort in hauling your tools, equipment and display items to the meeting!



### 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: [newslettereditor@bayareawoodturners.org](mailto:newslettereditor@bayareawoodturners.org)

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

**Annual BAWA Picnic**  
**Sunday, August 6th, 11:00 to 2:00**  
**Pleasant Hill Community Park**  
**147 Gregory Ln, Pleasant Hill**  
**Picnic Area #2**

It is grilling time!

Sunday August 6 is the annual BAWA BBQ & Tool Swap and Turned Frisbee Challenge too!  
Join in the fun, 11am – 2pm (10:00 set up) at the Pleasant Hill Community Park, picnic area 2.

The club will provide burgers, brats and buns along with all the necessary serving utensils, plates, cups and condiments.

The Event is potluck: we are breaking up what to bring alphabetically by last name:

**A - H** : Cold Drinks (Soda, Iced Tea, etc)

**I - P** : Sides (Baked beans, Salads, deviled eggs, etc)

**Q - Z**: Desserts

## Photos From Last Year's Picnic



President's Challenge Winners:  
Corwin Jones, Joel Albert, Harvey Klein

# Turned Frisbee Competition Returns to the August Picnic!

Join us on Sunday August 6, 2017 at Pleasant Hill Park in Pleasant Hill for our annual picnic and barbeque. By popular demand the celebrated Wooden Flying Disc Competition returns this year with two different events.



We'll have an event to see who can toss their wood turned flying disc the farthest and a second event to see who can get their wood turned flying disc to land closest to the target. Prizes will be awarded in each event.



Rules are few and simple:

Your flying discs must be lathe turned and consist of a solid disc with a recurved rim, similar to the original Frisbee flying disc;

Your flying disc must be solid, no holes in the middle and no rings similar to the Aerobie are permitted;

You get one toss for each of up to three discs in each event.

There is less than a month before the picnic to design your entries; get out to the shop and get them turned. See everyone in August!



## Rockler Helps BAWA Members

BAWA members receive a 10% discount when purchasing directly at the Concord Rockler Store at:

<http://www.rockler.com/retail/stores/ca/concord-store>.

Mention your BAWA membership when checking out, to receive your discount. Rockler also donates part of the proceeds back to the club which help support our Holiday Party raffle.



## Membership News

By Tim Kennedy

Membership Update



BAWA has 150 members for 2017

## 2016 Show and Tell

Due to a corrupt SD card, the photos taken at the June meeting are unavailable. In their place, please enjoy Show and Tell photos from 2016.



Charlie Saul-Segmented Bowl



Jay Holland-Bowl with Carved Rim



Steve Smyers-Hollow Form



Gary Bingham-Eight Magnolia Boxes



Harry Levin-Carved Bowl



Dave Plemons-Rose Engine Box & Bowl



(Continued on following page)

2016 Show and Tell



Brad Adams-Hollow Forms



Kim Wolfe-Birch with Copperleaf



Ed Steffinger-Two Compound Lidded Boxes



Anthony Strazhnikov-Red Oak Bowl



David Fleisig-Segmented and Natural Edged Bowls



Lana Fly-Walnut, Maple Madrone & Plum Bowls