

ARIZONA WOODTURNERS ASSOCIATION -- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -- JULY 2017

Greetings once again and welcome to July's Presidential message.

We are all back in town from the international symposium in Kansas City. It was a great event, with awesome demonstrations, numerous vendors selling wood, tools, turning supplies, and items to wear. I know this because I got my credit card statement last week. It took a beating! We won't mention the banquet dinner, it was not good! But we had some great speakers and honored some awesome people with lifetime achievement awards. One thing I noticed at the national level symposium was the presence of greatness. What I mean by this is to be in the same room watching some of the pioneers of woodturning that I have heard and learned about in my short exposure to this craft, and then go up and visit their amazing displays in the instant gallery.

I enjoyed being a videographer for the first time at the national level. It was a lot of work, but very re-arding to make sure that all the people that were watching got the best view possible. Anna Lappégard and her videography team did a super job keeping all of us rookie videographers going whenever we had any issues. One phone call and they were all over it. Good job and well done.

As you remember this is the 30-year anniversary for the Arizona Woodturners Association. Yesterday I met with Don Mitchell, the founder and first president of our club. I will be writing an article on Don and any other founding members of this club, that I will send in to the American Association of Woodturners and it will be posted in one of their monthly magazines. I have invited Don as a guest speaker to give a little history on how our club was founded. So don't miss this meeting, because I'm going to purchase a cake to celebrate. Party!

The presidents challenge for July will be any project with a lid.

I know the weather has been extremely hot so be safe, stay hydrated, turn when you can, and see you on July 15th. Thanks and have a great day.

Jim McCleary
President, Arizona Woodturners Association